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THE EUROPEAN TIMES

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GOOD TIMES

On page 4 today we guide you through Aix-en-Provence — French festival of the week

Misuse of wildlife cash feared

British doubts threaten Rio treaty signing

FROM MICHAEL MCCARTHY IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND NICHOLAS WOOD IN LONDON

BRITAIN last night joined the United States in expressing strong doubts over a central treaty drawn up for the Earth summit, placing the outcome of the conference in doubt before it begins.

It appears unlikely that the treaty on preventing the extinction of wildlife species will be signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which opens in Rio de Janeiro on Wednesday. The text of the convention on biological diversity had been agreed in draft form by officials in Nairobi ten days ago after 15 months of negotiations.

The US State Department said at the weekend that President Bush would not sign the convention when he reaches Rio next week because it was fundamentally flawed, claiming that the text gave the developing countries too

much say in deciding the treaty's aid provisions. There is concern that the money intended to preserve rare species might be misused by Third World regimes.

While Britain has not taken a final decision, there is a real possibility that John Major may also leave Rio without signing the treaty.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, suggested that the treaty was faulty on two counts: the cost and the strength of the measures proposed to conserve the world's flora and fauna. "The commitment to measures to protect the world's species are pretty weak, significantly weaker, for example, than the provisions in the climate change convention, which were the subject of such criticism by environmental organisations," he said in a BBC television interview.

Mr Howard also expressed concern about a section of the

treaty that could make Western biotechnology companies pay Third World countries for using their imported natural resources, such as rare plants. "Now that's something we would need to look at very carefully," Mr Howard said.

President Bush dismissed international criticism over the weekend of his sudden decision not to sign the treaty. He told farmers in California that he would not yield to environmental extremists. "We cannot accept standards that are not based on the soundness of science," he said.

The bio-diversity convention is one of two agreements of substance which had been thought likely to come out of a summit which has a largely disputed agenda. The other is a climate change treaty to counter global warming, the text of which was agreed in New York earlier last month and which David Maclean, the environment minister, said Britain was committed to signing.

Leading figures among the thousands of environmentalists gathered in Rio said that failure to sign the bio-diversity convention would be disastrous and might threaten signature of the climate convention. Gordon Shepherd, director of conventions and treaties for the World Wide Fund for Nature, said: "Mr Major must sign the bio-diversity treaty, regardless of what President Bush does. The world can live without the US signing this treaty, but it cannot live with the extinction of species which is continuing all the time."

In Britain, the Labour party urged the government to sign. David Blunkett, the shadow environment minister, said: "If the British government follows the US in refusing to sign... it will have committed an act of betrayal against future generations, for which it must stand condemned."

Uncertainty over the treaty's fate adds to confusion on the eve of the 12-day summit. A United Nations press officer, Monique McClellan, said: "We're going crazy. There's not even a final programme yet." Nor is it clear who is coming: the UN press office says that 142 heads of state or government have said that they will attend, the Brazilian government says 83.

The whole preparatory process has led to tension between the rich industrialised countries of the north and the developing countries of the south, principally over new aid to help the South protect its environment.

Safer planet, page 12
Diary, page 14
Leading article, page 15

5,000 civil servants could give Canary Wharf a lifeline

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government aims to reach an agreement in principle by the end of the month to move up to 5,000 civil servants to Canary Wharf and other Docklands sites, it was disclosed yesterday.

Ministers spent the weekend preparing for the Downing Street summit today on the future of the failed office complex. The meeting, to be chaired by Lord Wakeham, leader of the Lords, will hear reports from Michael Howard, the environment secretary, Michael Heseltine, the president of the Board of Trade, and John MacGregor, the transport secretary, on the progress of the relocation talks.

About 2,500 civil servants would come from those three ministries. Most are housed on the Marsham Street site in Victoria occupied by the environment and transport departments, which is to be demolished. A long-term tangle of other government offices spread across the capital is expected to net another 2,500 candidates for a move to Docklands.

According to senior ministerial sources, a "heads of agreement" covering new tenancies, which would make the insolvent office complex more attractive to potential buyers, could be drawn up in a month. Ministers believe such a timetable would dovetail with efforts by Ernst and Young, the lead administrator called in last week by Olympia & York to run Canary Wharf, to find a new owner.

Stephen Adamson of Ernst & Young will seek information from ministers on a range of tax and financial incentives, the granting of which will prove critical to the success of attempts to keep the project afloat.

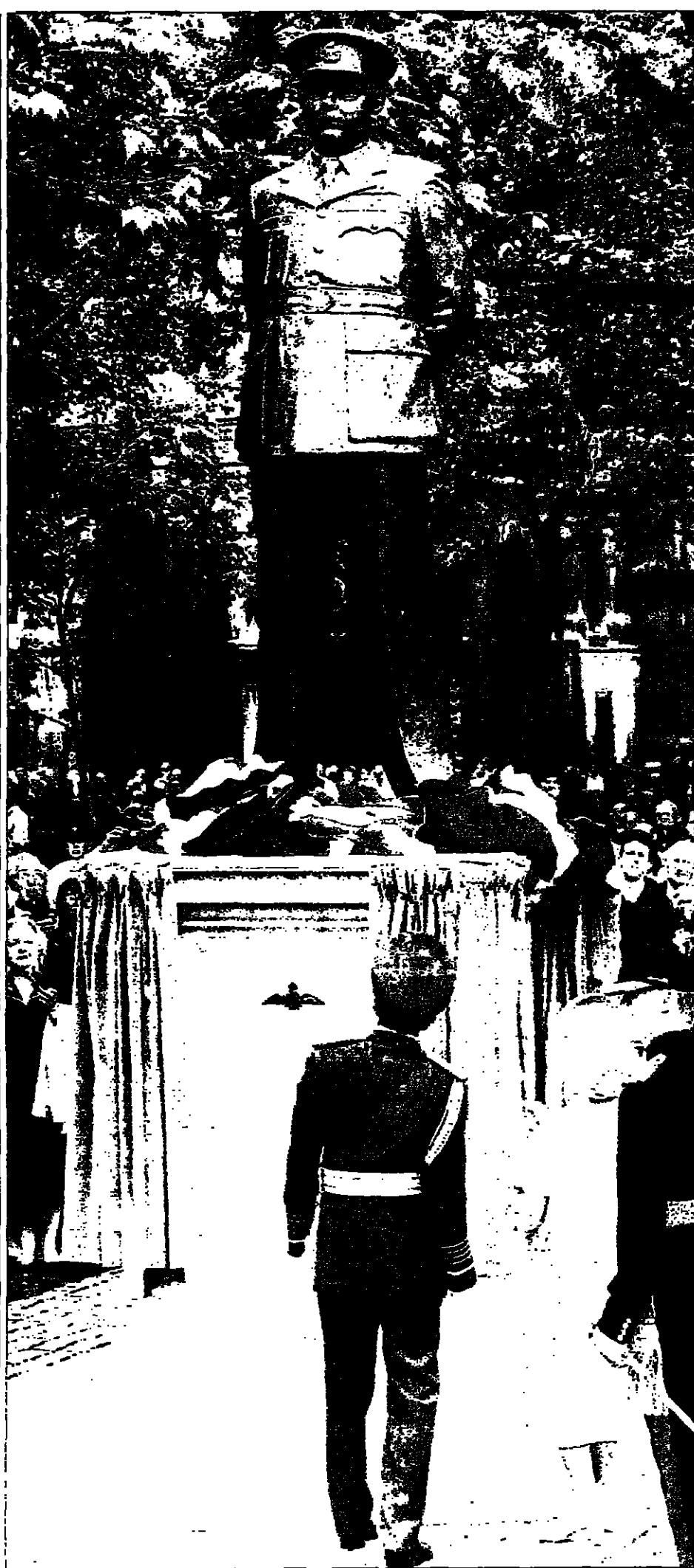
The administrators are keen to establish the status of government plans to move up to 5,000 civil servants to Canary Wharf. The fate of the Jubilee Line extension will also be high on the agenda.

Continued on page 18, col 4

Leading article, page 15
Administration plea, page 19



Lord Wakeham: to chair talks on Canary Wharf



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, with Sir Michael Beetham, Marshal of the RAF, to her left, unveiling the statue of Sir Arthur Harris yesterday

Ten arrested at Harris protest

BY PETER VICTOR

TEN people were arrested during demonstrations yesterday as Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother unveiled a statue of Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris in central London. Red paint was thrown over spectators and there were violent scuffles as police took the demonstrators away.

The Queen Mother's speech, in which she praised Harris and the work of Bomber Command, was interrupted by boos and shouts from protesters among

the crowd outside the RAF church of St Clement Danes in the Strand. She stopped her speech from time to time and looked slightly shaken as the protesters were quelled, but continued to the end.

A group calling itself "No statues for murderers" said later that the protesters who threw paint on the crowd had been aiming for the statue. The colour red was chosen to symbolise the blood of German civilian casualties.

appealed to the Queen Mother to boycott the unveiling, saying that her presence gave the ceremony a "special significance".

Scuffles broke out as police moved in on the protesters. Some of the veteran airmen in the crowd shouted "Scum" as seven men and two women were carried, led and dragged.

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Serbs blame leaders for UN sanctions

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE Serbian opposition took to the streets of Belgrade yesterday with thousands of demonstrators opposed to the war in Bosnia blaming the government of Slobodan Milosevic for the sweeping United Nations sanctions imposed on Serbia.

A shocked Serbian leadership protested its innocence and reprimanded Serbian forces in Bosnia. Vuk Draskovic, the leader of the largest of Serbia's mainstream opposition parties, said: "These sanctions are not against the Serbian people, but against the regime. The enemy of our people is not in New York, London, Paris or Moscow but right here in Belgrade. We must liberate Serbia."

The sanctions, which began to bite immediately, include a ban on all trade; an oil embargo; suspension of air links; a ban on sporting ties; and withdrawal of diplomats. President Milosevic rejected as "senseless" accusations that Yugoslavia, now comprising just Serbia and Montenegro was involved in the Bosnian war. He declared defiantly: "Serbia will oppose the blockade with truth."

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, warned against premature use of military force against Serbia. Herr Kinkel said he hoped the sanctions would be given

more time than was the UN blockade of Iraq after it invaded Kuwait in 1990.

"We should not be thinking about military action for now, but rather that we should expect the sanctions to have an effect," Herr Kinkel said.

Mr Milosevic spoke as about 15,000 Serbs demonstrated in Belgrade against the war in Bosnia. Yugoslav forces shelled Dubrovnik for

the sanctions.

all trade banned
oil embargo
air links suspended
financial assets seized
diplomats withdrawn
sports ban
no cultural exchanges

the third day running, but the bombardment of Sarajevo subsided as news spread of a new ceasefire.

As the security council moved to a vote on Saturday, Belgrade sent out frantic messages in a bid to win a stay of execution. One proposal was the bizarre idea that the United States and Russia should set up a "joint command" to enforce peace. Asked whether this meant military intervention, Vladislav Jovanovic, the Serbian foreign minister, said: "We are asking for their political intervention."

Continued on page 18, col 8
Milosevic defiant, page 9

Senna beats Mansell

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE world champion, Ayrton Senna, brought Nigel Mansell's record five-race winning Formula One run to an end yesterday with a thrilling victory in the Monaco Grand Prix.

Senna, in a McLaren, took the lead from the runaway championship leader nine laps from the end of the 78-lap race when Mansell en-

tered the pits for a tyre change. The Brazilian held on, under intense pressure, to triumph by 0.2 of a second.

Mansell, winner of every race this season, put together the fastest series of laps in the race to cut Senna's lead from five seconds to virtually zero. But he could not pass him.

Full details, pages 29 and 30

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Sun tips its hat to merry month of May

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE LAST month was almost certainly the hottest May for 150 years in southern and central England. The average daytime temperature, topping 16.5°C (62°F) in many places, when it is finally calculated, should have fractionally bettered the record set in 1953.

The month just past was also one of the sunniest on record, though such has been the prevalence of sunshine in recent years that it is necessary to go no further back than 1989 to find an even sunnier May. But May 1992 obliged with 146 per cent of average sunshine, raising it among the sunniest since records began. Until the end of last week the month was set to match 1989 as one of the driest Mays for 300 years, but widespread rain and torrential thunderstorms put the dampers on that. Now the monthly rainfall seems to have been little less than average.

In a country perennially preoccupied with its weather, though, May cannot be accused of failing to provide our monthly share of thrills. That it managed to couple them with a few perversely timed spills — such as the Welsh downpour which greeted the speech by the Prince of Wales advocating greater heed to water conservation — only heightened the fun.

We were also treated to the hottest Spring bank holiday since the late May break replaced Whitsun 20 years ago, and by mid-month were getting reports of temperatures in the mid-80s Fahrenheit from Edinburgh airport. On several days temperatures in usually ill-favoured parts, such as Scotland and the North-east, bettered those in Spain, Florida and Greece. No single reading, though, matched the May day in 1947 when temperatures soared to 88°C in the Vale of York.

William Hill is taking bets that tem-

peratures will go above 100°F this summer. The odds have been shortening, though a warm May is no indicator of what is likely to happen in the rest of the year. A 14.6°C average daytime temperature in 1976 heralded the year of the great drought, but May 1988, which was only slightly less hot, was followed by a long cool summer.

This May's weather, which has still to be confirmed officially as a record, does not bode well for the nation's water supplies, which are as much under threat as ever. In hot weather even appreciable rainfall evaporates before it can replenish ground water supplies.

Now for June. The London Weather Centre predicts that the first few days will be warm and quite sunny, though with thundery showers becoming widespread. That's about par for the course.

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Forecast, page 18



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Vertical take-off: one of Britain's first "jump jets" being lifted into the Science Museum in London by crane yesterday. It had to be temporarily taken apart to fit through the third-floor window (Nigel Hawkes writes). The plane, a Hawker P.1127, was the first to demonstrate that vertical take-off

and landing could be made to work in a jet fighter. Among many similar projects in the late 1950s, it was the only one to evolve into a successful fighter, the Harrier, which distinguished itself in the Falklands conflict. The plane delivered yesterday, XP831, first flew in 1960 and has been lent

from the RAF Museum in Hendon to form one of the main exhibits in the museum's refurbished aeronautics gallery. The secret of the P.1127's success was the BE53 vectored thrust engine, later developed into the Rolls-Royce Pegasus. Other contemporary projects had separate engines for lift and

forward thrust, but the P.1127 relied on a single engine for both. At the front of the engine, a fan created thrust which could be directed downwards through rotatable nozzles in the fuselage to generate lift. This enabled the aircraft to take off and land vertically, and to make the transition from

hovering to forward flight. The vectored thrust had a second benefit, enabling the Harrier to make abrupt manoeuvres in combat and forcing less agile aircraft to overshoot. This proved especially valuable in the Falklands, where the subsonic Harriers performed well against supersonic opposition.

Water chiefs' £20m shares windfall angers Labour

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE scale of perks and bonuses being given to executives in the newly privatised water industry at a time when consumers face higher bills was criticised yesterday by the Labour party.

The ten chairman of the privatised companies and more than 400 other executives could receive a windfall of almost £20 million through share options awarded as part of a salary and perks package given after privatisation two years ago.

Ann Taylor, a Labour envi-

ronment spokesman, said: "It is outrageous that these perks should be given on top of the much bigger salaries being paid to chairmen and senior staff in the privatised water companies. Many people have been hit twice by this privatisation. They have paid firstly as taxpayers at the time of privatisation and now they are paying through higher charges."

Mrs Taylor said that the perks package should have been revealed when the industry was privatised. "We

hear a lot of talk about accountability but there is precious little accountability in these arrangements made in companies which are private monopolies," she added. Ministers should ensure that similar packages were not offered to managements of British Rail and British Coal when they were privatised, Mrs Taylor said. "We do not believe share options and other perks are in the public interest. These perks should make people much more wary about other privatisations."

The chairman and executives stand to make significant profits from the share options, which enable them to buy shares in their companies at a predetermined price and sell them on the open market. The scheme is intended to give them an incentive to improve their company's performance so that the share price increases. In the case of the water companies, there was already a considerable profit protection built in by the government.

Roy Watts, chairman of Thames Water, has options to buy 172,000 shares at an average of 290p each (the market price is now 440p). John Elfed Jones, chairman of Welsh Water, has 186,544 share options. Denis Grove, chairman of North West Water has 171,000 options

and Michael Hoffman, chief executive of Thames Water has 221,136 options.

Opposition politicians have said they are worried because if executives have such a direct interest in the performance of shares, the industry was likely to be run for the benefit of shareholders rather than for consumers and the good of the environment.

The privatisation was criticised in a National Audit Office report earlier this year which showed that in six weeks of bargaining during the summer of 1989, the government raised the sum it was prepared to put into the ten companies from £560 million to £1.1 billion. It had expected the sale to raise £5.8 billion but the shares eventually fetched £3.6 billion.



Taylor: outraged by costs of privatisation

Lamont urged to waive stamp duty

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NORMAN Lamont is coming under increasing pressure to assist the property market this summer by extending the eight-month exemption from stamp duty on home sales.

The Chancellor has been told by estate agents and building societies that a return of the 1 per cent duty on all sales over £30,000 on August 19 would snuff out the tentative signs of a lift in the housing market. The Treasury insists, however, that the moratorium on stamp duty for properties sold for up to £250,000 will end. Only houses fetching less than £30,000 would be exempt. A spokesman said: "It was made clear at the time that this was just a temporary measure."

The National Association of Estate Agents has appealed to the Treasury to extend the

exemption for a further six or 12 months. Alternatively, it suggests lifting the threshold to £60,000 to help first-time buyers or those buying cheaper properties after their homes have been repossessed. It predicts a rush in the next two months to complete sales before the deadline.

Mr Lamont waived the duty from December 20 as part of a £1.5 billion package to boost the property market and reduce mortgage repossessions. The Treasury estimated that the exemption would cost £420 million in lost revenue. In an average year, the duty paid on the 100,000 transactions contributes £1 billion.

The loss during the eight-month exemption is expected to be lower because house sales have not increased as fast as expected.

Bolton finds poet in its soul

By RONALD FAUX

BOLTON, the Lancashire mill town better known for spinning cotton than its appreciation of oratorical poetry, is celebrating links with Walt Whitman, the American poet who died a hundred years ago.

Boltonians rambling through countryside on the outskirts of the town this weekend may have been surprised to hear a declamatory voice urging them to: "Behold the sea itself and on its limitless heaving breast, the ships" as a Whitmanite taking part in the al fresco celebration got into his poetic

stride. Norman Parker, Bolton's chief librarian, explained that the connection with Whitman was forged in the 1880s when a group of Bolton men, who met regularly at a house in Eagle Street to discuss political and intellectual topics, developed a strong admiration for Whitman's poetry.

"There were a number of ways in which they identified with Whitman. They saw political implications in his writings, which I don't think Whitman himself intended. In general they were socialists who read into his poetry

a parallel with their own beliefs in democracy and socialism. It is fairly certain, although this can never be proved, that some of the Bolton Whitmanites were homosexual and saw elements of that in his poetry as well."

Two of the group, James Wallace and Dr Johnston, a Bolton general practitioner, visited Whitman in 1890 and 1891 and through these visits and contacts with the poet's friends and confidants, collected books and other memorabilia. More material was acquired in bequests.

Car sales surge is short-lived

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE surge in car sales after the election has halted. Provisional registration figures for May are likely to show that sales have fallen to about 118,000 from 120,000 in May last year.

The figure ends hopes that the election result had cleared the way for a rapid recovery in Britain's biggest manufacturing sector.

Instead, all indicators show that car firms may continue to suffer from a prolonged slump. The makers say that sales this year will struggle to match the 1.6 million achieved in 1991, the worst performance for 10 years, unless there is a strong burst of activity in the second half of the year.

Estimates circulating within Ford last week show an annualised projection of May sales at 1.45 million registrations, the lowest number since 1981. At the same time exports are also starting to

fall. Exports of cars in the first quarter of this year fell by 4 per cent, helping to stretch the balance of trade deficit in automotive products to £532 million, compared with a £121 million surplus in the last quarter of 1991.

It is the domestic market, however, that is giving most cause for concern, with the brief flicker of life after the election disappearing almost as fast as it came.

The May figures have deeper significance for Ford, which, having dominated the market for 16 years, may fall behind Vauxhall. With four accounting days to go, Vauxhall had taken 18.8 per cent of the May market compared with 17.3 per cent for Ford and 16.3 per cent for Rover.

Ford says it is paying the price for switching the balance of its business from heavily discounted fleet deals into retail sales. There are few private buyers to be found.

Ron Farrell, Ford's director of dealer operations, said yesterday: "Things are not looking good at the moment. We are in for a tough year unless there is a substantial revival in the second half."

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today: Nupe conference opens. HM Inspector's report into Derbyshire police published. Alison Halford gives evidence at her industrial tribunal. Results of review of Easington Colliery published.

Tomorrow: Wiltshire police announce plans to deal with travellers heading for Stonehenge at the summer solstice. Howe report on staffing residential care published. Royal Academy summer exhibition opens. Cancer researchers give details of new treatment involving yew tree clippings.

Wednesday: Court martial starts of submarine captain Lt Cdr Peter McDonnell over loss of fishing boat Antares. Buckinghamshire council decides whether to have grammar schools in Milton Keynes. Campaign against road tax evasion launched. Conference on diversification in the defence industry.

Thursday: Appeal court gives reasons for quashing Judith Ward conviction. International Day against child cruelty. Association of County Councils' schools committee discusses opting out.

Friday: British Coal and Rotherham council discuss buyout plan for Thurncroft Colliery. Eight people charged under Dangerous Dogs Act to be prosecuted.

Saturday: Dissolution Honours announced. Campaign to feed Africa launched.

Sunday: Single-handed transatlantic race starts from Plymouth.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Transplant girl rests in US after flight

Laura Davies was resting in her private room at the Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh, yesterday, where doctors hope to perform the bowel and liver transplant needed to save her life. The four-year-old arrived in America early yesterday with her parents Frances and Leslie Davies, from Eccles, Greater Manchester. The hospital said: "Laura's condition is stable. The trip over was quite an ordeal. She needs to adjust and get used to being here."

The family and Christine Kenny, a ward sister from Pendlebury Hospital, Manchester, have been offered the use of a house in Pittsburgh. One parent can sleep in Laura's room. Laura, who was born with a perished bowel, must now wait for a suitable donor. Her journey to the United States was financed by well-wishers, who raised £350,000 to help her. The sum included a £150,000 donation from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. Professor Sir Roy Calne, of Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, offered to perform the operation, which has never been attempted in Britain.

Technology falls short

John Patten, education secretary, is to announce an enquiry into the national curriculum in technology this week after receiving two critical reports claiming that standards are dropping (John O'Leary writes). Mr Patten's initiative will coincide with the publication of a report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate showing that almost a third of technology lessons in primary schools are unsatisfactory. The inspectors found that standards were lowest where the new curriculum had been introduced. The findings confirm the verdict of academics at Manchester University, whose research published last month criticised the "Blue Peter" approach to technology in primary schools and the inclusion of subjects such as home economics and business studies.

Education Times, L&T section, page 7

Major visits Scotland

John Major today makes his first visit to Scotland since the general election when, to almost everyone's surprise, the Conservatives increased their vote and gained two seats north of the border. He is expected to emphasise that Scotland's international position is enhanced by a strong union with England. He will visit Glasgow, held by Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, against expectations, and the Ayr constituency, also held by the Tories despite a strong Labour campaign. Mr Major will want to show the Scots that their country is high on his agenda. One idea being mooted is a limited assembly, overlooking single-tier councils, able to run facilities such as roads and education. There could be more gatherings of the Scottish Grand Committee, and the restoration of the Scottish select committee.

Song hails friendship

José Carreras and Sarah Brightman will sing the anthem for the Olympic Games in Barcelona. *Friends for Life* (Amigos Para Siempre), composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber and to be heard by hundreds of millions round the world, it was announced yesterday. Mr Lloyd Webber said: "*Friends for Life* very much reflects the spirit of international friendship and excitement that the Olympic Games uniquely provide. I am delighted that José Carreras is singing with Sarah Brightman both on the forthcoming record and in front of the huge worldwide audience in Barcelona." Mr Carreras, musical director for the games in his home city, said: "It is a real challenge for me to be able to participate in such an active way in Andrew Lloyd Webber's composition and sing with Sarah Brightman." The lyrics are by Don Black.

Diabetic found dead

A 34-year-old diabetic woman was found dead in woods by her father yesterday after he organised a second search party, of family members and friends to look for her. Janet Paton, who lived with her parents, is believed to have died from an insulin overdose. Last week police used a helicopter and mounted a large-scale search on foot of the area near her home at Witney, Oxfordshire, after she failed to turn up for work. No trace of her was found. Concern grew when her bicycle was found propped up by a hedge at North Leigh woods, near Witney. Thames Valley police said yesterday: "The death is not being treated as suspicious. The insulin would have been self-administered." No note was found.

Auction Calendar June 1992

LONDON
Stamps 3, 4 & 5 June
19th & 20th Century Posters 3 June
Fine Continental Furniture and Tapestries 4 June
Modern British and Irish Paintings, Watercolours and Drawings 5 June
Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art 8 June
Important French and Continental Furniture and European Carpets 11 June
Post-War and Contemporary British Pictures and 20th Century British Sculpture 11 June
Fine Victorian Pictures, Drawings and Watercolours 12 June
Japanese Works of Art 15 June
Important Jewellery 17 June
Old Master Prints 18 June
Finest and Rarest Wines 18 June
19th Century Continental Pictures, Watercolours and Drawings 19 June
Continental Ceramics 22 June
Tribal Art 23 June
Glass 23 June
Books and Manuscripts 24 June
Watches 24 June
Impressionist & Modern Paintings, Drawings & Sculpture (Part I) 29 June
Impressionist & Modern Paintings and Sculpture (Part II) 29 June
Impressionist & Modern Paintings and Sculpture (Part III) 30 June
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A licence is organised to rave the night away

Thousands through the open-air "raves" that local people find an intolerable intrusion. Nicholas Watt monitored the police monitoring one weekend rave. Adam Fresco mingled with the revellers

A ROLLING field just outside Basing, Hampshire, was turned into a party-goer's paradise on Friday night. For £22, more than 4,000 "ravers" danced the night away in a marquee the size of a circus big top. The organisers had laid out fairground games, hamburger stalls and an amusement arcade, and double fencing around the site, with powerful lights every ten metres and guards patrolling the inner fence with alsatian dogs.

An operation of equal precision was organised by Basingstoke police, who started planning for the party three months ago, after the organisers applied for a licence. They drew up two plans: one for a licensed rave and a second if the licence was not granted.

Just over an hour before the rave was due to start, it looked as if police would have to use plan B, as environ-

mental health officers refused to grant the licence on safety grounds. But just before 7pm the party was allowed to go ahead. Supt Tim Brain, in charge of the police operation, said: "I was disappointed that the organisers took so long to satisfy the safety requirements. There were substantial objections to the big top, and the dance platforms were initially installed contrary to fire regulations."

Police seemed rather baffled about the fun of dancing furiously to loud music all night, but relations with the ravers were generally friendly. Two officers proudly displayed flowers on the front of their jackets. "How could you expect me to turn down flowers from a beautiful young girl?" one asked.

The one source of tension was people turning up without tickets. Only 3,200 of the 5,200 tickets were sold beforehand and, from 11pm,



ROBIN MAYES

Friday night hotspot: a damp field in Hampshire becomes the party place to be for 4,000 "ravers"

police lining the approach roads stopped every car and turned away those without tickets. Mr Brain said: "We make sure this kind of event is properly regulated. We grin and bear these parties and I feel sorry for the disruption to local people." An organiser, who did not want to be named, saw things differently: "It's quite clear the

police are doing everything they can to sabotage the party. They don't want us back here and they want the kids to be frightened off."

Six arrests were made, two for drugs-related offences. Security guards searched the ravers as they entered and there was an amnesty bin at the entrance if anyone arrived with drugs for their own

use. As part of the conditions for the licence, Basingstoke and Deane council insisted on the organisers employing an independent noise consultant to measure the loudness of the music. He twice had to ask for it to be turned down. Two environmental health officers were on hand throughout the night and investigated four complaints

from residents about the noise. By 3am, many of the estimated 4,500 party-goers started to drift away as drizzling rain turned the field to mud. One youngster, whom police had not identified yesterday, was found in a coma by the roadside. He was taken to hospital where he was still on a life support machine yesterday.

Dancers high on enthusiasm reject media drug 'myth'

THE ravers were far better turned out than the new age travellers who descended on the Malvern Hills over the bank holiday weekend. Most were in their late teens and early 20s and wore the obligatory trainers, shorts and T-shirts. The women wore even skimpier outfits. They danced through the night to music that had the beat and volume of a pneumatic drill, while screens on the sides of a marquee showed psychedelic images. Raving seems to be about moving as many limbs as possible at the same time in different directions to futuristic music and lasers.

Most kept going on enthusiasm alone. The common belief that anyone who goes to these events is on drugs was quickly dispelled by ravers as "middle class bias" and "media myth".

Kate Harris, 18, a double-glazing saleswoman from Worthing, West Sussex, left work early to prepare for the rave, which went on until 7am. After a week of telephone calls to friends, her party travelled up in four cars. "Everyone thinks that if you come here you are on drugs. Some people are, but 90 per cent just get high on the atmosphere. Everyone comes for a good time and everyone is really friendly. The media have played the drugs angle up."

"There used to be a lot of illegal raves, but now there are so many legal ones you can pick and choose. The government should do something to make them all legal and there wouldn't be half the trouble there is."

There were small groups huddled in corners who were obviously high on more than the atmosphere but they were the exception. The only substance I saw being used was a decongestant, which was liberally rubbed onto backs. But a man offered me Ecstasy, an hallucinogenic drug, as soon as I stepped from the car.

Rebecca Flint, 20, from Basingstoke, has been to raves all over the country. In spite of having been made redundant from her insurance job hours earlier, she was in good spirits. "You can't help but be in a good mood when you come to these things. The atmosphere envelops you. It's so much better than a disco because people are here to dance, not pose. You can also dance a lot longer."

From the stage inside the marquee, DJs urged ravers to dance faster and make even more noise with the whistles that hung on fluorescent tubes from almost every neck. The dancers eagerly accepted the challenge, arms and hands outstretched. By 5am the rave seemed to be coming to an end.

The atmosphere was infectious and, after a while, the noise did not sound so bad. It was certainly a less threatening place than many London clubs.

Women should seek help for periods, both sexes say

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

PERIOD problems should not simply be suffered in silence, most British people now believe. A new survey shows that the vast majority of the general public no longer sees period problems as "a woman's lot" to be endured. The survey, carried out by Mori for the Primary Care Group in Gynaecology, found that more than 80 per cent of men and 90 per cent of women believe women with period problems should see their doctor and seek relief.

Some myths remain, however. Nearly 40 per cent of the men questioned were uncertain or did not know whether women's periods were influenced by the phases of the moon. Fewer women had any truck with such tales - three quarters disagreed with the idea.

The survey, of a representative sample of 2,077 adults, was carried out in February and released today by the group, which represents doctors interested in the treatment of gynaecological problems. Dr Diana Sanders, a

research psychologist at the Warneford Hospital in Oxford, said yesterday: "The fact that these male myths still exist suggests that a number of women still consider periods to be a taboo subject. But how can men be tolerant and sympathetic if their partner's period problems remain shrouded in mystery?"

The survey suggests that men may be more sympathetic about period problems than other women. While nearly 60 per cent of men and women agreed that women do not complain unnecessarily, twice as many women as men felt other women complained too much.

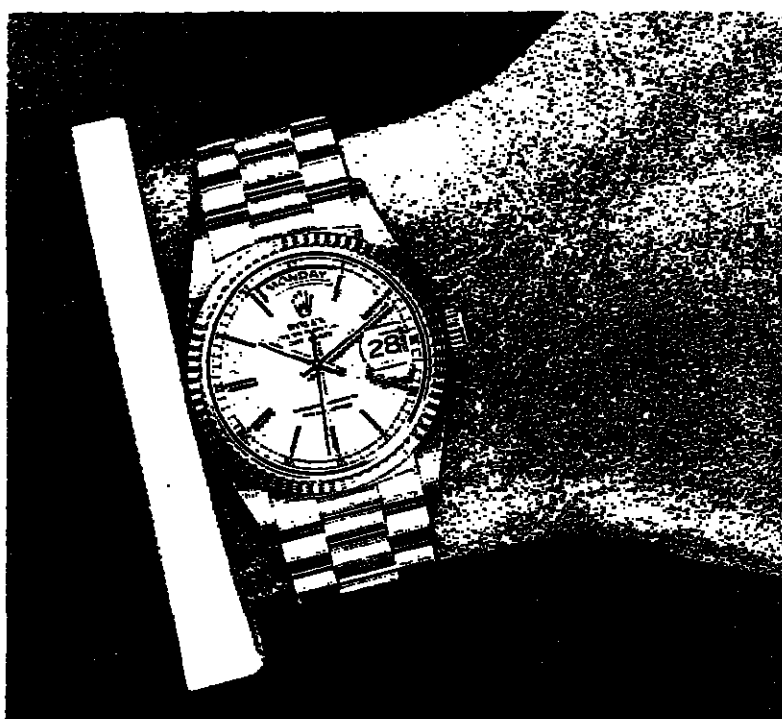
Nearly a quarter of the women questioned said that women made too much fuss about their periods, compared with only one in eight of the men. The lack of sympathy was particularly noticeable among women in the North and women aged over 55, among whom one in three agreed that women complain too much.

More than a quarter of

men aged between 15 and 34 felt that their own lives were adversely affected by the misery of periods; more than 60 per cent of women disagreed with the proposition that men were thus affected. Although large majorities thought women with problems should seek help, other surveys show that only a minority do, according to Dr Carol Lole-Harris, an Oxford GP who is on the group's advisory board. "Recent studies show that nearly 40 per cent of women who have problems with periods just suffer it out, more than 40 per cent lie down and take it easy and only just over a third consult their GP. The main reason these women sought medical help were that they were in pain, had finally had enough and could not stand any more."

Dr Lole-Harris said it was a tragedy that so many women were prepared to suffer when effective treatments were available. "Any woman who is experiencing problems with her periods should consult her GP", she said.

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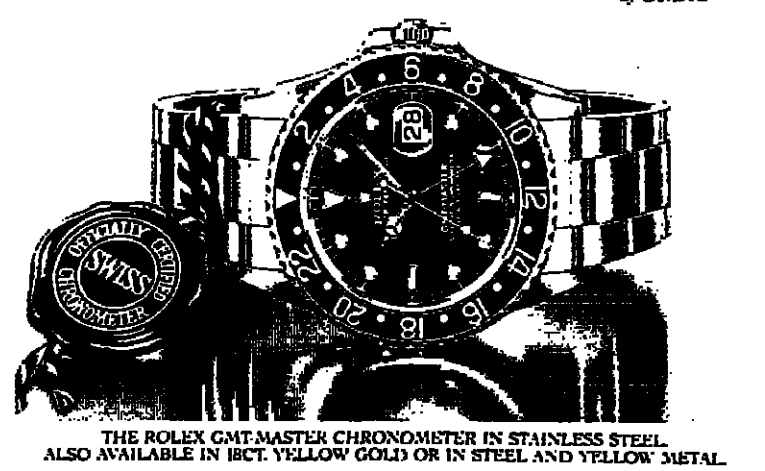
They've had plenty of time to look as well, because the creation of a Rolex Oyster Chronometer takes many months. A period in which Swiss craftsmen apply the finest tolerances as they assemble the components into a precise time-keeping machine. A period in which every step of the process undergoes human, mechanical or electronic testing, because the creation of a Rolex movement demands a passion for perfection.

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Suicide rise linked to recession

By Jeremy Laurence, Social Services Correspondent

THE suicide rate among young men has risen faster in the UK than in any other west European country except Spain since the 1970s and could rise further as a result of the recession, according to a new study.

Across Europe, suicide rates among men aged 15 to 24 have seen sharper increases than in any other age group. Between 1974 and 1988, the rate rose 90 per cent for the age group in England and Wales, 163 per cent in Scotland and tenfold in Northern Ireland. Only Spain, with a 179 per cent increase, saw a comparable rise.

The Europe-wide increase in young male suicides is linked with trends in unemployment, according to Colin Pritchard, professor of social work studies at Southampton University. In an analysis in the *British Journal of Psychiatry*, he says there is a correlation between the unemployment rate and the youth suicide rate in all countries except Portugal, Denmark and West Germany. In Denmark and West Germany, which had the lowest unemployment, suicide rates fell.

Since 1990, UK unemployment has risen 59 per cent with 250,000 young men jobless for more than six months. This is the "danger period", Professor Pritchard said.

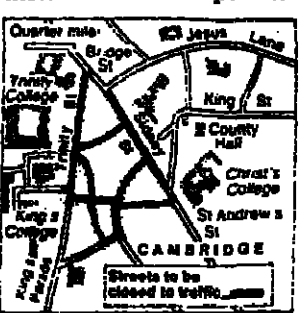
Vehicles barred in Cambridge centre

By Robin Young

A NEW traffic scheme to be introduced in the centre of Cambridge today will ban even undergraduates' bicycles and disabled motorists' vehicles from some of the city's busiest streets and lanes.

Only permit holders' vehicles will be allowed in other streets from Monday to Saturday between the hours of 10am and 4pm. The bans have been introduced for a trial period of 18 months, as a result of a recent traffic survey.

That showed that on a typical weekday 20,000 pedestrians, 3,500 cyclists and 2,000 motor vehicles compete for



road space in narrow streets that cannot be widened because they are lined with historic buildings.

Cyclists have tended to be worst affected, being involved in more than two-thirds of the accidents in the area since 1988. Locked barriers that can be opened only with the use of special passes issued to permit holders and the emergency services will enforce the bans.

Only the most severely dis-

abled motorists will be allowed entry to the affected streets. Delivery vehicles that fail to clear the area before the 10am deadline will be committing an offence.

Tony Carter, chairman of Cambridge council's traffic sub-committee, said that there were too many holders of orange cards for the disabled for all to be allowed in. "The system is already grossly abused", he said.

Sidney Street, from Bridge Street to the junction with St Andrew's and Hobson streets, is to be closed to all traffic including bicycles. Cyclists will be allowed entry only if they have dismounted to push their cycles to parking bays in Hobson Street.

Earth Summit, page 12

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OK. Not the most glamorous features of the new Mazda 626, but they could keep you out of the divorce court.

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For example, tell them the sensual bodywork reduces wind noise and fuel consumption.

Tell them the spoiler on the 5-door model improves roadholding. (Oddly enough, it actually does.)

Tell them the luxury of ABS is, in fact, vital for safety. And argue that a six speaker stereo is crucial in such a cavernous cabin space.

Tell them the 626 is wider than any other family car. (1.5 metres between both front and rear wheels.)

Explain that this is for passenger comfort, NOT to give the driver firmer handling.

With a straight face, tell them power steering means a smoother ride for those loved ones. Not convinced? Take them for a glide round the block.

the tyres are matched to those of the wheels to cut down road noise.

Tell them about the sound insulation in the dashboard.

Tell them about the new sealing and bonding in the frame, designed to cut down yet more vibrations.

Speak in a hypnotic monotone about the lateral rigidity enhancement measures.

Then go right round the block again, and describe what's under the hood.

Divulge that the engine block is ribbed, so it's more rigid, and transmits less noise.

As for the engine itself, apologise for its sophistication.

But as there are 16 valve DOHC motors for both the GLX models, and a 24 valve V6 DOHC in the 2.5i GT, you might say there was nothing humble available.

Even fuel injection and catalytic converters are de rigueur.

Tell them how it makes the engine smoother because it cuts down noise and maximises torque throughout the RPM range.

While they're nodding, outline the new suspension refinements.

A tale of urethane bump stops and stiffened anti-roll mechanisms which will leave them snoring profoundly.

And the reduced roll itself means they'll never be jolted awake.

By the time you get home they'll have forgotten about all the minor indulgences. Keep that illuminated driver's lock to yourself.

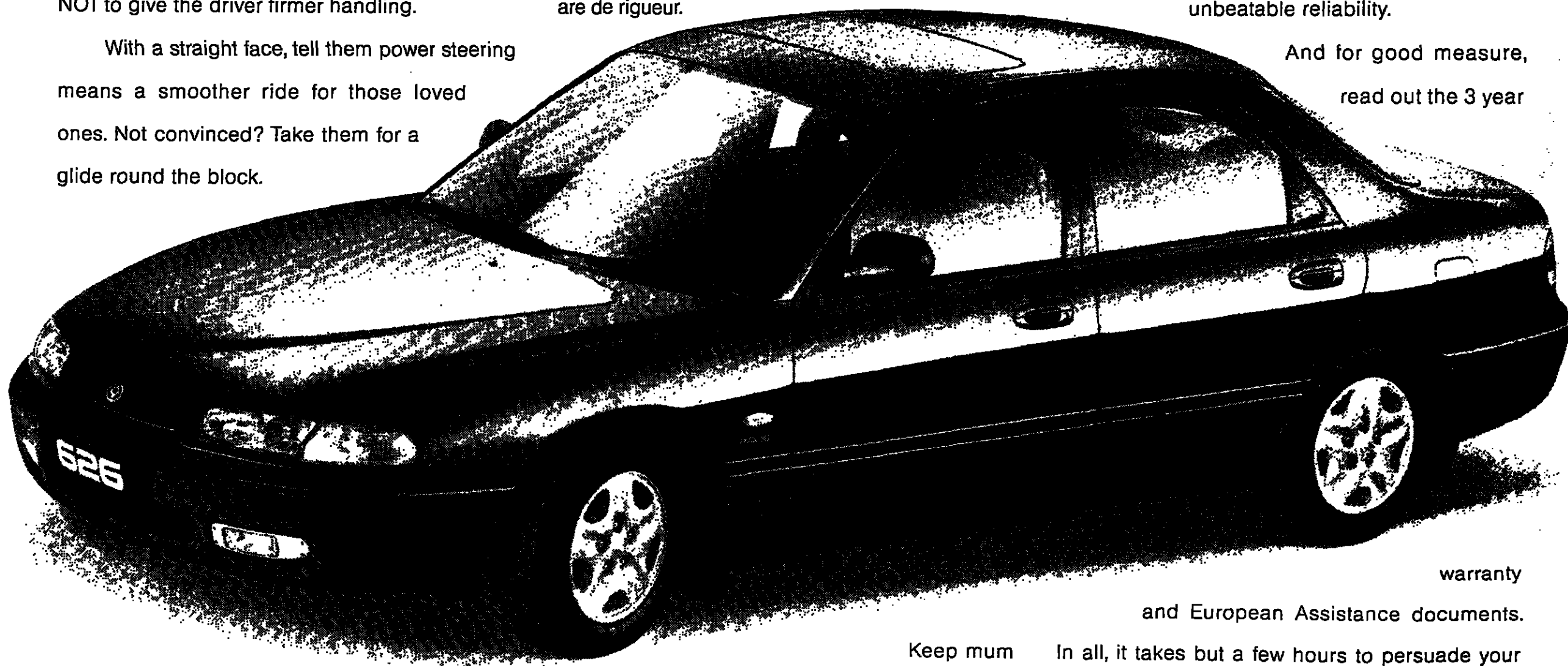
Along with the electric sunroof, windows and mirrors, the headlamp levelling, the electronic climate control and the central locking.

Then round off your sales pitch as follows.

Tell them the family holiday is safe. Prices for the 626 start at only £12,639.

Clinch the deal with the legend of Mazda's unbeatable reliability.

And for good measure, read out the 3 year



As you drive, list the dozens of noise reduction measures. (You'll have to take the long way round the block.)

Tell them about the integrated bearing caps and the hollowed out camshaft.

Explain how the resonance frequencies of

Keep mum about performance figures, of course. The GT's 0-62 time of 8.5 seconds would strike them as suspiciously rapid.

Instead, lower them back into a light snooze with an account of the engine's "Variable Resonance Induction System."

warranty and European Assistance documents. In all, it takes but a few hours to persuade your family that the 626 is primarily a family car.

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Queen Mother pays tribute to man chosen by Churchill to take the war into Germany

Tempers flare as Bomber Command honours Harris

BY PETER VICTOR

SIR Arthur Harris and his bomber crews had given Britain hope and the means of salvation during the second world war, the Queen Mother, patron of the Bomber Command Association, said yesterday as she unveiled his statue at St Clement Danes church in the Strand.

He was "an inspiring leader who carried a heavy burden of responsibility for more than three years," she said. "There is nowhere more fitting to honour him and his brave crews, more than 55,000 who died defending our country and freedom, than outside the RAF church."

The church was itself a victim of the war, she said. The statue of Sir Arthur stood alongside that of Air Chief Marshal Lord Dowding, which she unveiled four years ago. "We remember them today with pride and gratitude, and let us remember too all those of every nation and background who suffered as victims of the second world war."

At one stage during her speech, when the noise of protesters was in danger of drowning out her words, she turned to Sir Michael Beetham, Marshal of the

RAF and president of the Bomber Command Association, and asked if she should go on.

There were cheers from the crowd, however, when she finished her speech and unveiled the statue of Sir Arthur. As she stood looking at the monument with Sir Michael, a Lancaster bomber flew overhead. She stood, reflecting quietly, as the Last Post was sounded.

Before the unveiling the Queen Mother, dressed in a powder blue hat and floral dress, attended a service of thanksgiving for the life and leadership of Sir Arthur, the bravery of his airmen and the 55,000 Bomber Command men who died.

About 900 people, including Margaret and Sir Denis Thatcher, gathered in the church for the hour-long service. Bomber Command Association members were told only minutes before Mrs Thatcher's arrival that she would attend the church service. "I wanted to be here to pay tribute to all those who helped to win victory for freedom," she said. "Without that victory Germany would not have been free today."

Bomber Command Association chairman Group Cap-

tain Kenneth Batchelor described the visit of the former prime minister as a great honour. "It is a fillip to our day, when I'm already on top of the world," he said. Lord Cheshire VC, who commanded the Dambusters squadron during the war, also attended.

The RAF's chaplain in chief, the Ven Brian Lucas, said the memorial statue was long overdue and the success of Sir Arthur and his crews had ensured freedom in Europe from a "cruel and ruthless dictator".

He said: "I don't think there is much danger of us becoming starry-eyed about Arthur Harris or the kind of missions carried out by his crews in Bomber Command during the second world war and it is important that we do keep things in sharp focus because we are about a very serious matter here."

More than 55,000 airmen had died in the Bomber Command offensive - "to destroy the Nazi war machine and to bring the war in Europe to an end as rapidly as possible". The bomber pilots saw their friends shot down around them and the empty places at breakfast, he said. "But their courage never failed them. Many hundreds of them are with us in church here this morning - men whose heart misses a beat when they hear the growl of the Merlin engine."

Mr Lucas said: "We salute them and we thank them and with them we remember their comrades who 'bought it' and didn't return. That memorial awaiting us is long overdue."

In 1942, Britain had been in dire straits - the army had been defeated and the Royal Navy was struggling to maintain the Atlantic lifeline, he said. "Churchill chose Arthur Harris to carry the war into the heart of enemy territory and so ensured victory and freedom in Europe. Had he and his crews not been successful, the invasion of Europe would have been greatly delayed and the outcome of the war very different. It had to be an all-out effort or bust."

The crowds watching the unveiling ceremony contained many former members of Bomber Command. Most wore medals to show their support for the recognition of their former leader in the face of controversy over the 600,000 deaths, mostly civilian, that his mass-bombing strategy inflicted on Nazi Germany.

Behind barriers on the other side of the road were nearly 200 protesters bearing placards, including a few men who had flown with Bomber Command.



Confrontation: David Alfred, left, who disapproves of the Harris statue, argues with a man who compares Sir Arthur to a Nazi

Cologne honours 'all victims'

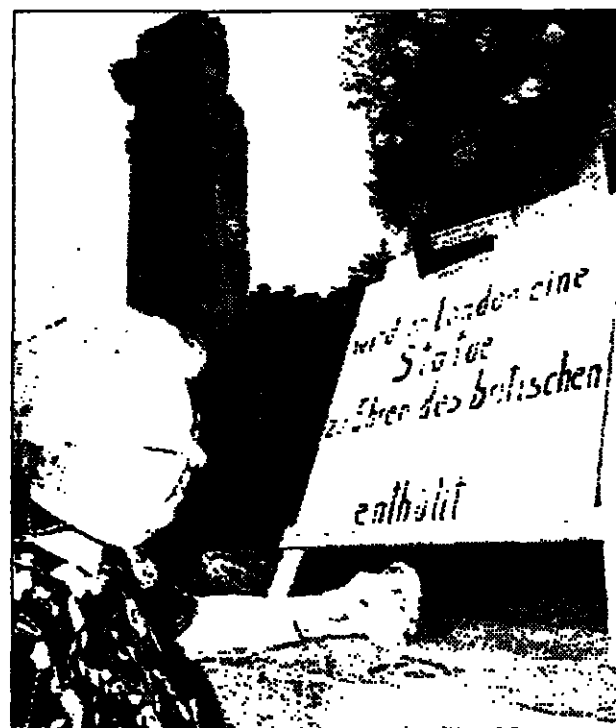
FROM IAN MURRAY IN COLOGNE

FOUR boy trumpeters played a ragged fanfare on the restored steps behind St Maria im Kapitol in Cologne yesterday to open a solemn ceremony marking the fiftieth anniversary of the first 1,000-bomber air raid. Wreaths were laid both for the Bomber Command pilots who died and for the civilians their bombs killed.

The idea for the service came from Norbert Burger, Lord Mayor of Cologne, who was nine on the night his city was hit. His intention was to use the service as a reminder of the horrors of war, not as a counter to yesterday's ceremony at St Clement Danes.

Herr Burger stood beside Sir Christopher Mallaby, the British ambassador to Germany, who said that he was there to demonstrate the reconciliation between Britain and Germany. About 300 people, mostly middle-aged, attended.

A huge wreath of red and white flowers "to all victims of war and violence" was laid by two volunteer firemen, representing the 84 crews who struggled vainly 50 years ago to put out the fires started by 364 bombs, 110,000 incendiaries and 20 land mines. The raid killed



Dresden protest: a poster reminds an air-raid survivor of the statue being unveiled in London

469 of the 20,000 civilians who were to die in more than 200 attacks on the city before the war ended.

St Maria was one of the many churches wrecked in the first raid. It was chosen for the ceremony to symbolise the way in which the city has risen from its ashes.

In his address, Herr Burger made no attempt to gloss over his country's responsibility for starting the fighting. "We must not forget the guilt, the destruction and the horror of the war," he said. "And that means for us today

the memory of the victims of this war, of all victims in all countries, of dead soldiers as well as civilians."

That was as near as he or anyone came to mentioning Bomber Command. He said afterwards, however, that he wanted the ceremony to honour the 55,000 "brave men of the RAF who had died obeying orders".

In a similar but much smaller ceremony, wreaths were laid at the ruins of the Frauenkirche in Dresden to coincide with the unveiling of the statue in London.

Coventry prays amid the ruins

BY CRAIG SETON

PRAYERS for peace and reconciliation were said at Coventry Cathedral yesterday as the statue to Sir Arthur Harris was being unveiled in London. The sound of the morning service drifted to the adjacent ruins of the old cathedral, which was reduced to a shell during the devastation wrought by a mass German bombing raid on the city in November 1940.

One of the many people strolling by the old cathedral ruins was William Pendred, 72, who was at home with his parents in the city on the night of the raid. He was waiting to go to work at the city's Armstrong Whitworth factory that made bombers used for mass raids over Germany.

Mr Pendred said that a statue was a proper memorial to the former wartime leader and the RAF bomber crews who died. "He had a job to do and he did it well," Mr Pendred said. "We did not start the war and we were bombed."

"You will always get retaliation and civilian casualties in war. We suffered mass devastation in Coventry. When we were bombed that night we just thought it was another raid, but we soon knew it was really heavy. The devastation

was terrible, but we just took it as part of the war."

Coventry has since assumed an important role in attempts to preach peace and reconciliation and the city is twinned with Dresden. One of those who condemned plans for the statue of Sir Arthur Harris is Canon Paul Oestreicher, director of international ministry at Coventry Cathedral. Last Sunday, he joined a group that placed a 6ft white wooden dove near the site of the Harris statue, the unveiling of which he said was an insensitive gesture that did nothing to bind the wounds of the past.

Two weeks ago Coventry's lord mayor, and the Very Rev John Petty, Provost of Coventry Cathedral, issued a statement saying they understood and sympathised with friends in Germany who might be hurt or offended by the statue, but asking them to show generosity of spirit and understanding in sympathising with veterans of Bomber Command.

The provost said yesterday that special prayers for peace were said during the morning service. "Reconciliation is the most important thing. Our thoughts are with Dresden and Cologne and they are very much in our prayers."



Homage: Harry Roberts, who served with the Royal Artillery, and his bull terrier Megan

Letters, page 15
Court, page 16

Police station last stop on bus route

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A BUS driver took a dim view of his passengers when his sunglasses disappeared and he made a request stop of his own at the local police station to demand that they should all undergo a body search.

Along the way, new passengers were allowed to get on, but travellers already aboard, most of them pensioners, women and children, were ordered to remain seated when they tried to get off at their stops.

At the police station the driver took his cash box and locked everyone in before going inside to demand an investigation. Officers told him that a search of the passengers was impossible, but they did check the baggage, before suggesting to the driver that the passengers be allowed to go.

At least one passenger plans to sue the driver's employers for his unexpected excursion on the 130 route from Leeds to Wakefield. The West

Riding bus company was keeping silent yesterday. The driver, who has not been named, is on holiday.

The journey had begun peacefully enough when the single deck bus picked up passengers at Leeds City station. Lawrence Fascione, 48, said that the driver had then suddenly accused him of taking the glasses, claiming they had been where he was sitting. "He shouted: 'Somebody out there has got my glasses and if they aren't returned I am going to take you to the police station'", Mr Fascione said.

"He marched up and down the aisle for five minutes before setting off. It got a bit ridiculous. He picked people up but when anyone wanted to get off he told them to sit down. Several people must have missed their stops, but no one wanted to complain."

Five miles down the road, the bus swung into Rothwell police station yard where the driver demanded action from PC Denis Moss. "I told him that we were not searching women and children," PC Moss said. "You could understand it if it had been a busload of yobs, but they were pensioners and kids who were very distraught."

After the baggage search found nothing police told the driver they could do no more. "He wasn't very happy," PC Moss said.

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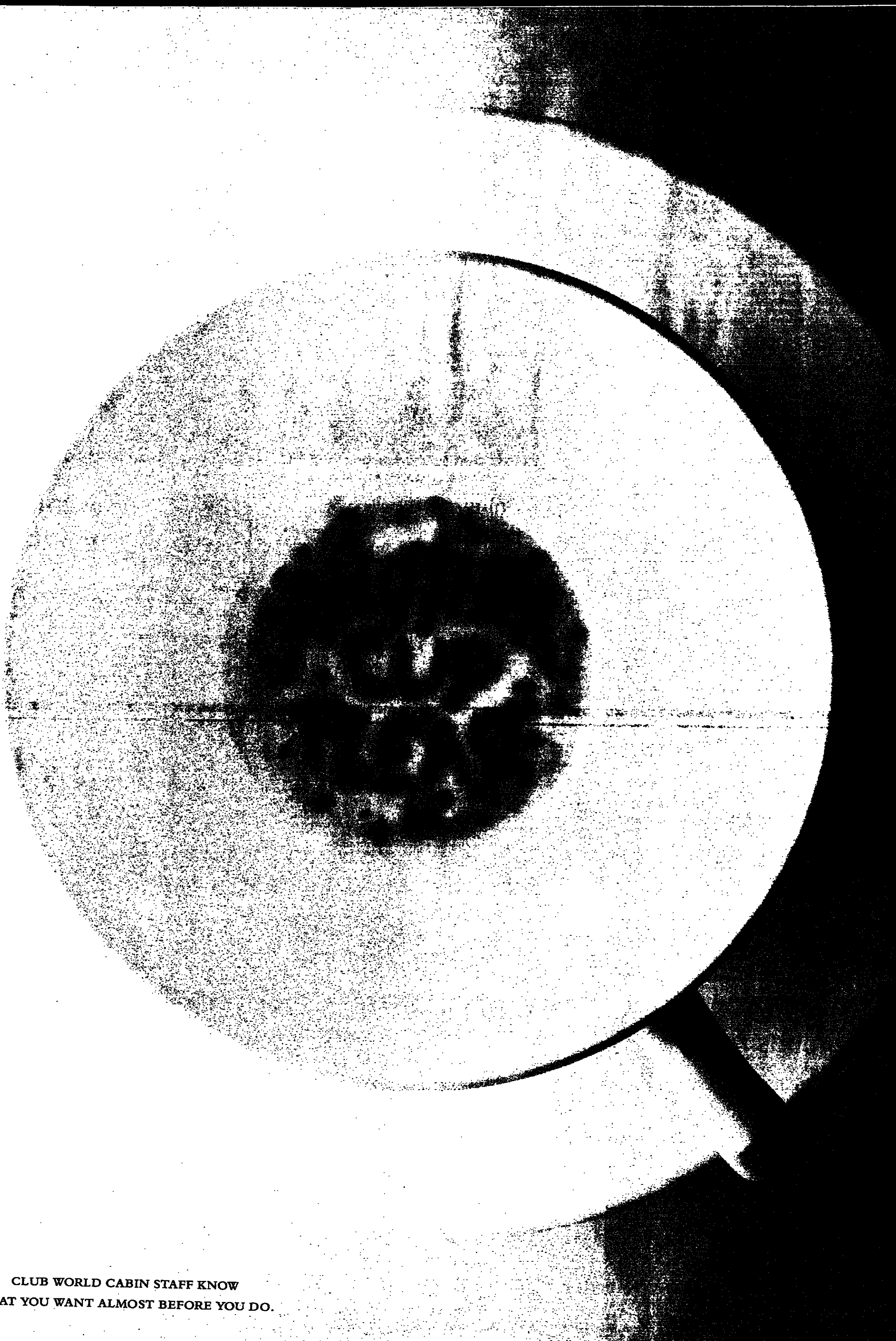
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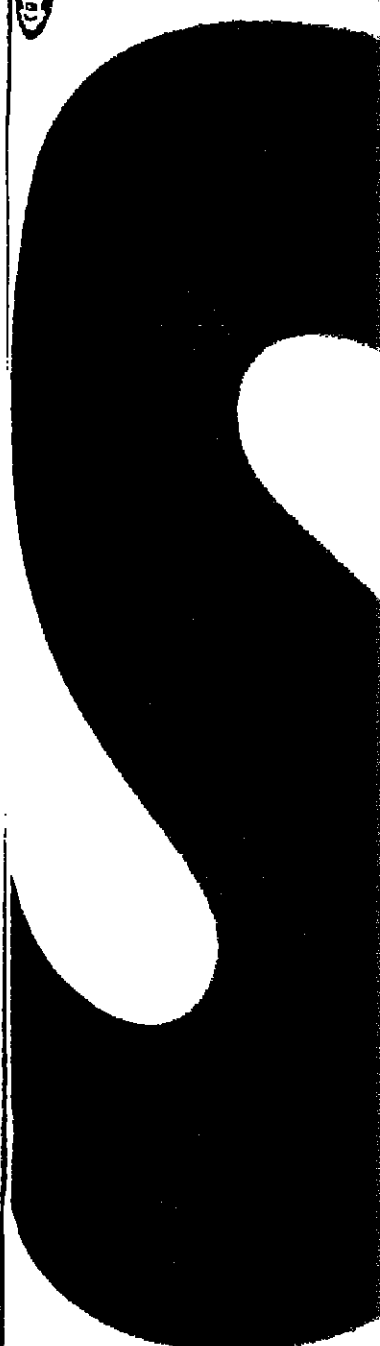
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Neighbours' schemes fail to cut crime, experts say

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

NEIGHBOURHOOD watch schemes have failed to reduce crime, increase public security or improve relations between the police and communities, according to a new study published today.

Michael McConville, professor of law at Warwick University, and Dan Shepherd, lecturer in law at Bristol Polytechnic, concluded that most of the thousands of schemes officially recognised by police and the Home Office were probably dormant. They found little difference in crime levels, community relations or crime prevention activities in areas with or without schemes.

Their book, *Watching Police Watching Communities*, published by Routledge, covers a wide range of watch schemes in London, Avon and Somerset and Gwent. Two hundred community beat officers were interviewed and the researchers also questioned 200 members and non-members of schemes.

The beat officers who run the schemes are often treated with scorn by colleagues. Some officers said they had been forced into the job and others admitted taking a soft option while they were working for promotion examinations. Others had been moved into the post because of discipline problems.

The authors say: "Our conclusions add to a growing body of research which suggests that neighbourhood watch is ineffective in reducing or preventing crime and has few other noteworthy benefits." Many of the areas they surveyed would be considered prime sites for schemes and yet "no individual scheme could be said to be active except at the weakest level".

Neighbourhood watch schemes, based on American

models, were launched in 1983 to persuade neighbours to keep an eye on each other's homes, report anything suspicious to police and help to cut opportunistic crime. By 1991 there were about 91,000 schemes across Britain and they were hailed as making a great contribution to fighting crime.

The authors claim that establishment of the schemes has been haphazard, with no official agreement on what constitutes a scheme, what membership entails, whether membership is individual or by household, and the responsibilities of police. The list of schemes had never been checked and in one area of London it was found that 37 active or proposed schemes logged in 1986 had shrunk to ten active schemes two years later.

Few scheme members went to any meetings other than the inaugural one and the main contribution of most members was to put stickers in their windows they carried out very little surveillance.

Even when schemes were set up under optimum conditions they had little chance of success because they were imposed from the outside and were not the result of a call from the community.

The authors claim that police and politicians have over-estimated the importance attached to fighting crime, which came after bad housing, poor schools, unemployment and other problems in the public's list of priorities.

They found that the public did not, as some police believed, harp after a "golden age" of policing. People were realistic and did not have high expectations, accepting that the force might be handicapped by lack of resources or the nature of crime.

British Coal keeps its loyal workers in the dark

By TIM JONES

BRITISH Coal is denying access by outsiders to some of its most loyal and uncompaining workers because their continued employment clashes with the image of a thrusting, state-of-the-art industry which will soon be privatised.

Although they are vital to the operation, the 26 pit ponies at Ellington colliery, near Morpeth, Northumberland, have had thrown around them a security cordon worthy of a head of state or a pop superstar.

The ponies are the very last in an industry which once employed more than 70,000 of them. Such is the sensitivity of their continuing employment that even requests by children's programmes to film them in their dark environment are automatically rejected.

Corporation officials will not even say when the ponies are brought to the surface to enjoy holidays and long weekends before returning to work at the colliery whose workings extend more than ten miles beneath the North Sea.

British Coal says that to allow them to be photographed at work or in their stables would lead to scores of similar media requests which could not then be refused. It says that whenever the ponies are mentioned, letters pour in from children, particularly girls, and organisations who want to adopt them.

There is also the fear, unstated, that the ponies' "unnatural" life will produce a hostile reaction from animal rights activists. Faced with what the government has called the "ultimate privatisation", British Coal is anxious to avoid the prospect of its docile workers becoming a focal point of protest.

A source at British Coal said: "Essentially, we are embarrassed by the fact that they are still there but at this



Loyal friends: a pit pony and miner of 30 years ago. Today publicity for Ellington ponies is barred

pit they are essential. Ellington is operated on different levels and although it is highly mechanised their role in hauling equipment cannot be bettered by the conveyor belt systems."

He said it was British Coal's policy to phase them out as quickly as possible at the pit, which employs more than 1,600 men who produce more than two million tonnes of coal a year.

Some colliers regret their passing, for there are documented cases of ponies, always geldings, saving lives. One former underground ostler said: "Although they were always obedient and willing, there were times when they would refuse to budge. Often, the roadway

which they refused to walk through would be subject to a roof fall." He said that some ponies became so used to the stable temperatures below ground that they panicked when taken to the surface to be introduced to a lush green meadow.

In spite of their unnatural way of life, the ponies, which work a five-hour shift five

days a week, appear to be happy and content. They are well looked after and protected by stringent regulations and do not, as some believe, go blind.

When they retire, most are sent to approved homes, some of which are run by the RSPCA, but a few go to families who must promise that they will never be ridden.

Nuclear scientists to vote on strike

British scientists on the Jet fusion project in Oxfordshire are to be balloted on strike action over their complaint that European colleagues are paid twice as much.

Ten years of complaint have failed to win a rise, in spite of a 1987 European Parliament request to end differential payments.

Jerry Goff, the scientists' spokesman, said that a British scientist was paid between £15,000 and £25,000. Those employed by the European Commission were paid between £30,000 and £50,000.

PC stabbed

Mohan Singh Plahe, 52, unemployed, of no fixed address, is due to appear before Ealing magistrates, west London, today, charged with stabbing Police Constable Barry Hargreaves yesterday.

Tunnel vision

Nigel Pettitt, of Chilwell, Nottinghamshire, a rail enthusiast, will hold the first British Rail ticket for the Channel tunnel, after writing to Sir Peter Parker, then chairman of BR, six years ago.

Price of love

Fourteen love letters from the explorer Sir Henry Morton Stanley to Katie Gough-Roberts, briefly his fiancée, are expected to fetch up to £12,000 at auction in London this month.

Winning rut

English ploughmen Graham Whitty and John Hill won events at the World Ploughing championships at Albacete, Spain, at the weekend.

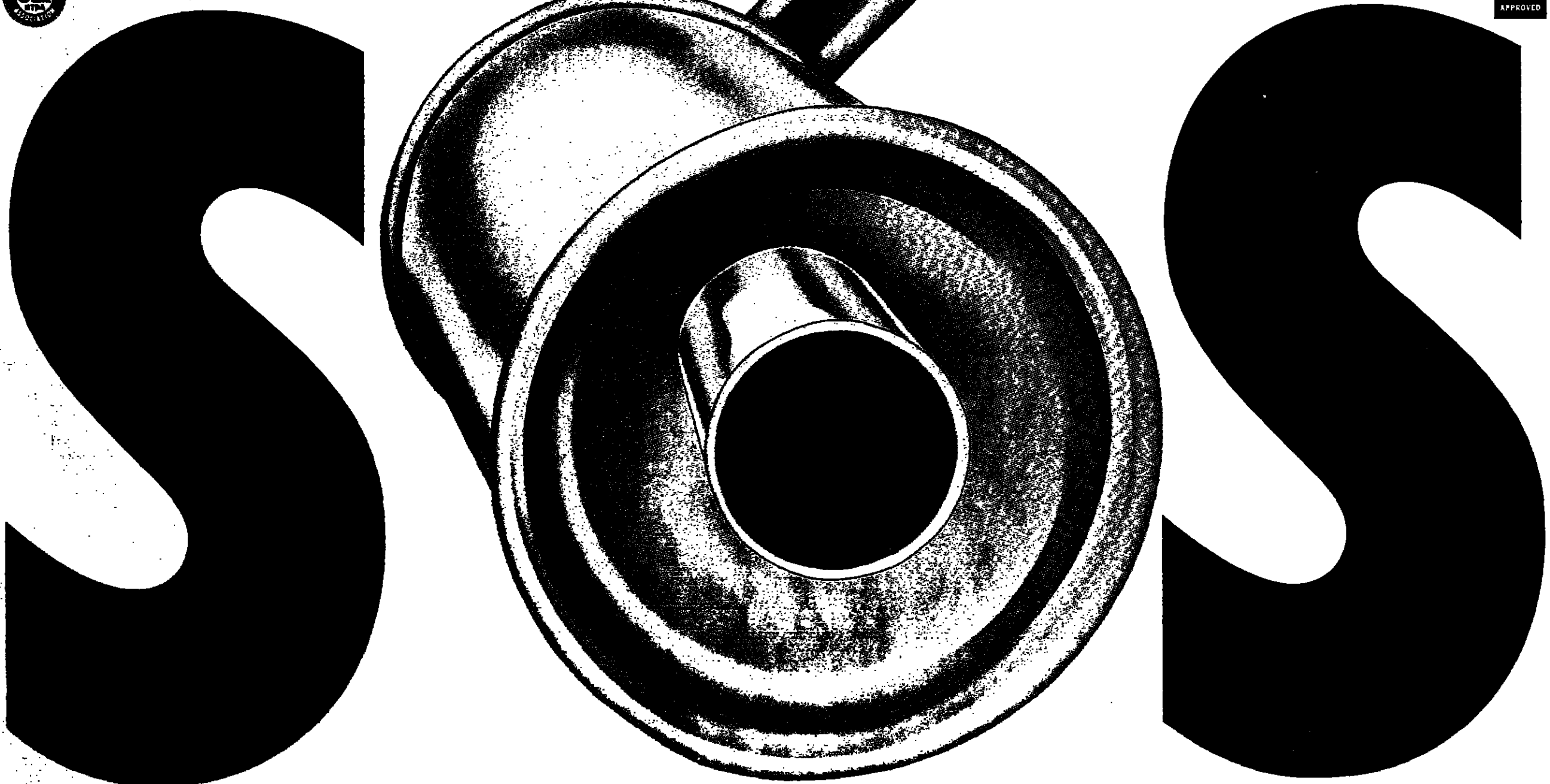
Fog rescue

Four French windsurfers were rescued off Dover after getting lost in fog while trying to cross the Channel.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bond prize draw: £100,000, bond number 9FK 449035, from Somerset, value of holding £8, £50,000, 1DS 079833, London (£860), £25,000, 1SKN 416580, Aberdeen (£50).

Special discounts for AA members

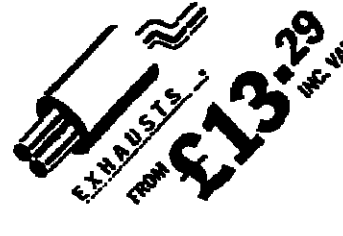


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We English do enjoy our summer traditions. Cricket on the green. Tea at four on the lawn. Strawberries with lots of emulsifier, guar gum and vegetable oil.

What's this? Have all these processed ingredients crept into one of our national institutions without you knowing?

No, no, no. But they are ingredients in synthetic substitutes for cream.

These synthetics could also contain many other strange-sounding things.

Locust bean gum, polyglycerol esters, trisodium citrate, E322, E160a, to name

but a few. Of course, the manufacturers of these synthetics will be a bit peeved by this advert. They'll be straight on to their PR boys wanting them to convince you that there's absolutely nothing wrong with their synthetic stuff.

We, at the National Dairy Council, couldn't agree more. There is nothing wrong with the white liquid they put in their

cartons. It's just that it's not fresh, natural cream. The cream that is still to this day made with only one natural ingredient: milk. An ingredient that is produced on farms, not concocted in factories.

Doubtless the manufacturers of these alternatives to cream (as they call them) will tell you they last longer. True, but then they're not fresh dairy products. Of course

it is not inconceivable that they will raise the fat issue. If they do, remind them that the big name in synthetics contains a similar amount of fat to that of fresh cream.

(You might point out to those same manufacturers that the National Dairy Council advocates a balanced diet, with cream being an occasional treat.)

So this summer, if you insist on being terribly English, enjoy your strawberries with the one accompaniment that makes them taste spiffing: fresh, natural cream.



HOW TERRIBLY ENGLISH.
STRAWBERRIES
SERVED WITH LASHINGS
OF VEGETABLE
OIL, GUAR GUM AND
EMULSIFIER.

Milosević
defiant as
march a

Boycott unlike
hurt U.K. indu

Soccer ban
expected to
hit home

Belgrade reaction

Milosevic remains defiant as thousands march against war

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

DEMONSTRATORS opposing the government tore down Yugoslav flags in Belgrade yesterday as thousands marched in protest at the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The protest came a day after the United Nations Security Council voted to implement mandatory sanctions against Yugoslavia, now comprising just Serbia and Montenegro.

The UN move was brushed aside by defiant Serbian leaders. "This is the price we have to pay because we are helping Serbs outside Serbia," said Slobodan Milosevic, the president.

The UN voted for stiff sanctions after weeks of frantic

diplomacy had failed to halt the Bosnian civil war. Foreign diplomats believe that the Serbian government is the chief culprit in supporting the Serb land grab in Bosnia, a claim hotly denied both in Belgrade and by Bosnian Serbs.

As the sanctions were announced, the shelling of Serb-besieged Sarajevo subsided and there was talk of a new ceasefire which, if agreed, would come into effect this evening. Fighting continued in other parts of the republic, and the Croatian port of Dubrovnik was shelled for the third day.

The Bosnian civil war has

already cost more than 2,000 lives. Sarajevo has been besieged for almost eight weeks and a million people, almost a quarter of the republic's population, have had to flee their homes. Yesterday's demonstrators in Belgrade used black sheets of paper to make a 4,000ft-long ribbon through one of the capital's main thoroughfares and dried flowers, a traditional symbol of mourning, were laid at the door of the offices of Mr Milosevic.

Mr Milosevic was voting yesterday in federal elections for the newly reconstituted Yugoslavia of Serbia and Montenegro. The new state is recognised neither by the outside world nor by the mainstream Serbian and Montenegrin opposition parties, which are boycotting the poll. Among chants of the 15,000-strong crowd yesterday was: "We are the elections".

While there was a low turnout at polling stations in the traditional opposition bastion of Belgrade, Serbian Radio was reporting high turnouts in the provinces with the exception of Kosovo, where the independence-minded Albanians held their own elections last week.

Serb leaders have played down the effect of sanctions, but there have been increasing signs that they will hit industry and agriculture far harder than the politicians have been claiming.

Yesterday's elections had been promoted as a "patriotic duty" by Serb and Montenegrin leaders, who have said that a high turnout will prove the best rebuff to international isolation. Watching over a steady trickle of mainly old people voting in a central Belgrade constituency yesterday, Zoran Ristic, a candidate for the ruling Socialist Party, said: "Serbia must survive, and in such a situation everyone must rally round the leader." Mr Ristic said he thought that President Milosevic had been very "clever" in handling the republic's international affairs.

A different view of sanctions came from Maja, aged 25, who participated in yesterday's opposition rally. She said that she was neither angered nor surprised by her country's international



pariah status. "But my father says he can't believe what has happened, and especially that the Russians have not supported us. He grew up with the Communist party and now he's just angry. He says Serbia is blameless and he hates the rest of the world."

Maja said that such differences of opinion had led to countless family traumas. Tens of thousands of young men had also fled the draft in an effort to avoid dying in a war they saw as being cynically waged by Serbia's leadership to retain power.

UN acts, page 1

British policy

Boycott unlikely to hurt UK industry

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND ALISON ROBERTS

MINISTERS have decided to waste no time in implementing sanctions against Serbia in the wake of the vote in the United Nations Security Council to apply pressure on Belgrade in an attempt to halt the bloodshed in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

A parliamentary order bringing United Kingdom law into line with the security council resolution, without the need for a debate or vote, is to be laid by the end of the week. It imposes an oil and trade embargo on Serbia and its ally Montenegro, cuts air links with the countries, and outlaws sporting and cultural contacts. An arms embargo was imposed in September.

Yesterday a Boeing 727 flown by the Yugoslav airline JAT was detained at Gatwick and prevented from flying to Belgrade. The jet was released later with instructions to fly to Skopje in Macedonia. Three return flights from Belgrade to Heathrow airport were cancelled.

The security council resolution, which was part sponsored by Britain, won all-party support in London. John Major, who had been pressing for a tougher stance against Serbian aggression, said: "In the light of recent developments in Bosnia, it is now right for the international community to take firm action against Serbia. The Serbians must be made to understand that their behaviour is unacceptable."

George Robertson, a Labour foreign affairs spokesman, said sanctions were a "hopeful step towards sanity"

in the Balkans, and added that the use of force should be kept under review by the UN.

"Only the UN has the authority to get Serbia to stop its attacks. It is a proper expression of the outrage among world opinion at the violence of the last few weeks."

Sir David Steel, Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman, who has called for aerial bombardment to be threatened against the Yugoslav air force and tanks, had reservations about the effectiveness of the package. "It is a step in the right direction, long overdue," he said. "The sporting boycott is a good one because it is easy to implement."

The trade boycott is likely to have little effect on the British economy. Last year exports to Yugoslavia amounted to £195 million and imports were valued at £150 million. Total British exports are £100 billion a year.

British-made telecommunications equipment, used to update old-fashioned Eastern European systems, account for £32 million worth of the exports. British pharmaceuticals and drinks industries export about £12 million of goods, each with miscellaneous manufactured goods amounting to £13 million.

Richard Brown, director of policy for the British Chambers of Commerce, said Britain was not losing an important market. "Obviously, for certain companies that were trading there it will be quite significant, but we were not very involved in that part of Eastern Europe."

The Wellcome Foundation, the pharmaceutical group, had an overall turnover of £1.6 billion last year, of which £1 million was generated in trade with the former Yugoslavia. The company said that it was still dealing with Croatia and Slovenia and that some exports would be classified as humanitarian and would not be embargoed. "It is by no means a large part of our operation and we would expect a downturn of business there anyway."

British businesses have been reluctant to invest in the former Yugoslav republics since the government made it much harder to obtain export credit insurance last year.

Impact on sport

Soccer ban expected to hit home

BY CLIVE WHITE

The ban on sporting links with Yugoslavia may seem insignificant compared with the other sanctions imposed by the United Nations, but it will hurt most those for whom it is intended — Serbia and Montenegro.

Nowhere is that more true than in the field of football. The new rump Yugoslav state will feel the acute disappointment of not only their "national" team's expulsion from the finals of this month's European championship in Sweden but their suspension from the world games, too.

Yugoslavia were to face England in their opening game. Following their suspension yesterday by the Union of European Football Associations, Denmark will be invited to step in as substitutes.

Of the squad of 20 players, 14 would have been from Serbia and Montenegro. Though their predominance may have been exaggerated by the withdrawal of players from other republics on political grounds, there is little doubt that Serbia provides the thrust of Yugoslav football. Red Star and Partizan, the two Belgrade clubs, have been the country's most outstanding for many years.

Now they face world-wide isolation. They will be barred from the 1994 World Cup if sanctions are still in force this September, when they are due to play their qualifying matches.

Danish threat, page 29



Brought to a halt: Belgrade drivers resorted to pushing their cars as they lined up for petrol after the UN adopted sanctions against Serbia

UN resolution 757

Restrictions come down on a broad range of contacts

THE following are excerpts from United Nations Security Council resolution 757, imposing sanctions on the Serbian Yugoslav state, adopted by 13 votes to 0, with China and Zimbabwe abstaining.

The security council decides that all states shall prevent:

- The import into their territories of all commodities and products originating in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);
- Any activities by their nationals or in their territories which would promote the export of any commodities or products originating in the republic of Yugoslavia, including any transfer of funds to the republic of Yugoslavia;
- The sale or supply by their nationals or from their territories or using their vessels or aircraft of any commodities,

but not including supplies intended for medical purposes and foodstuffs, to any person in the republic of Yugoslavia.

The security council also decides that all states shall not make available to the authorities in the republic of Yugoslavia any funds or other financial resources.

That all states shall:

- Deny permission to any aircraft to take off from, land in or overfly their territory, if it is to land in or has taken off from the republic of Yugoslavia, unless the flight has been approved for humanitarian or other purposes;
- Prohibit, by their nationals or from their territory, the provision of engineering and maintenance servicing of aircraft registered in the republic of Yugoslavia, and the payment of insurance claims.

That all states shall:

- Reduce the level of the staff at diplomatic missions and consular posts of the republic of Yugoslavia;
- Take the necessary steps to prevent the participation in sporting events on their territory of persons or groups representing the republic of Yugoslavia;
- Suspend scientific and technical co-operation and cultural exchanges and visits involving persons or groups officially sponsored by or representing the republic of Yugoslavia.

The security council requests the secretary-general to report not later than June 15 1992, and earlier if appropriate, on the implementation of resolution 752.

News analysis

Fragile coalition will test Major's diplomatic skills

BY DAVID WATTS IN LONDON AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

JOHN Major seems likely to inherit the testing role of leading the fragile coalition that will maintain sanctions against Serbia agreed by the United Nations Security Council.

Like the the anti-Iraq coalition, that coalition spans the old East-West and Arab-Muslim political divides, but unlike that grouping the new one has no highly visible leader — in a position to convince and cajole when the going gets tough.

This time, too, adherents cannot look forward to the benefits promised by the United States when they joined the coalition against President Saddam Hussein. Many countries will be much more careful in taking such promises at face value — few of the benefits that Washington promised have been paid out and the observable economic benefits of the sanctions against Serbia will be few and far between.

The leading role Britain has played at the UN in drafting the tough new resolution and its forthcoming presidency of the European Community will be vital in maintaining the support of Athens, perhaps the country hit hardest by the sanctions. Thirty per cent of Greek exports have been dependent upon the relationship with Serbia, much of whose oil is carried by pipeline across Greek territory.

Likewise the Danube, along which oil imports from Russia are shipped, will be the focus of much activity. Czechoslovakia and Hungary will be responsible for monitoring traffic on the river and with Romania will be keen to conform in full with the sanctions because they all want to become members of the EC.

Iran seems likely to comply and Iraq will have little choice, while any breach of sanctions by Russia will be immediately detectable. One of the few question marks would be over Libya but its delicate stand-off with the UN over the Lockerbie bombing would seem to leave little room for Colonel Gaddafi to manoeuvre.

Although Russia ended up supporting the comprehensive sanctions package in the Security Council, Yuli Vorontsov, the Russian envoy, made the important point that the UN is using up, at a single stroke, all its economic leverage on the Belgrade authorities. Any further UN action — a naval blockade, the closure of Serb airspace or the protection of aid convoys — will require force.

When Mr Vorontsov asked Sir David Hannay, the British envoy, and Edward Perkins, the American envoy if their countries would commit troops should sanctions fail, neither replied.



Vorontsov: diplomats failed to answer

The oil embargo is expected to be the most powerful weapon. A *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly* report published last year said that Yugoslav oil output was 79,500 barrels per day, only 25 per cent of demand. Gas production was almost 3 billion cubic metres a year, about 40 per cent of demand.

"Some sectors of the economy will come to a complete standstill and the entire economy will be forced just to survive," Bozo Jovanovic, the Yugoslav minister for foreign economic relations, told Reuters. The sanctions are the latest blow to an economy that is widely regarded as having been mismanaged for years under Communist rule and been ravaged by 11 months of ethnic fighting, plunging it into disarray.

The secession of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia in the past 11 months have stripped what remains of Yugoslavia of its internal market.

Use of force

Military action nears

BY MICHAEL EVANS

International military action to stop the slaughter in Bosnia-Herzegovina is seen as a serious option now, despite the risks and previous statements from world leaders that armed intervention was out of the question.

The political language in relation to the former state of Yugoslavia has changed significantly in the past week. John Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, have begun to say military action cannot be ruled out.

The same nuances have been employed before, most recently directed against Iraq when the United Nations' teams of experts were being obstructed in their attempts to eliminate Iraqi nuclear bomb-making facilities. However, in the case of Iraq the military options were relatively straightforward.

Intervention in Bosnia-Herzegovina would present a far more complex and more dangerous challenge. Mr Hurd said last week that he could not envisage any country willing to deploy forces in an interventionist role while there remained such a high risk of casualties.

Nevertheless, the possibility of another UN-authorised military operation no longer seems so hypothetical. The leaders of the Serbian irregular forces responsible for most of the carnage in Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, have made clear that sanctions will make no difference as far as they are concerned. Their stated wish is to reduce Sarajevo to powder.

Mandatory sanctions will have an effect, especially after the decision by Russia to support an oil embargo. Russia supplies much of Yugoslavia's oil. However, as Iraq proved, sanctions alone never bring a country to its knees.

How long can the international community wait for the latest sanctions to bite? The coalition formed to drive Iraqi troops out of Kuwait waited 16 months. However, during that period the threat of force was a visible part of the political brinkmanship being played between President Saddam Hussein and the American-led coalition. The build-up of troops made war inevitable unless the Iraqi leader removed all his troops from Kuwait.

Although Iraq provides the most recent and most relevant analogy, the challenge in Yugoslavia is different. If force were to be approved by the UN, the military aim would have to be limited in scope. There has been speculation that a minimum of 100,000 troops would be required, but that supposes a large-scale interventionist role.

An invasion of European-led or American-led forces aimed at destroying the Serbian stranglehold on Sarajevo and other parts of Bosnia could lead to disaster. The only realistic military option is to seize the airport outside Sarajevo and to use it as a bridgehead from which to mount limited military action against carefully defined targets, as well as using it as a base for humanitarian relief.



Troubled waters: a resident of Dubrovnik seizes a quiet moment at a shell-damaged fountain

IGNORING United Nations sanctions against Yugoslavia, Serbian forces yesterday shelled the Croatian seaside town of Dubrovnik for a third day in succession.

Yugoslav army and Serb irregular forces fired more than 40 shells into the heart of Dubrovnik from positions to the south along the Adriatic coast, targeting the medieval town and mountain peaks held by Croatian soldiers.

"We have had 24 cases of injuries since Friday, eight of them are serious," said Zoran Cikanic, director of Dubrovnik's Medarevo hospital. At least five explosions around the central Stradun street sent clouds of smoke rising into the air, and another appeared to hit Dubrovnik's Dominican church.

Shells whistled past seafront hotels outside the southern gate of the town before crashing over the high stone walls or into the Adriatic. Three bursts

struck beaches next to the Excelsior Hotel. Scores of people scurried for cover, some diving under tables.

Another shell landed 50 yards from the Hotel Argenta, which is used as a base by observers from both the UN and EC. It was the third attack since Friday, after a six-month lull in fighting around Dubrovnik and occurred shortly after the security council imposed stiff sanctions against the rump Yugoslav federation of Serbia and Montenegro.

The army launched its most ferocious assault on the city on December 6 which injured scores of people. Several buildings were gutted. Dubrovnik was besieged by the army and navy after Croatia's Serbian minority revolted against

the republic's separation from Yugoslavia. Fighting that erupted across Croatia died down into isolated Serb-Croat clashes after a fragile ceasefire was agreed in January, enforced by more than 10,000 UN peacekeepers deployed since March. But hostilities persist in areas not under UN control, such as the Adriatic sea coast.

The latest shelling surprised most people as it followed a withdrawal of the army from most of Croatia's Adriatic coast. Croatian flags were hoisted above the Popovo Polje mountain peaks above Dubrovnik.

"It was just last Tuesday. We were all standing in the main street, shouting and applauding as the flags went up," Jelena Vlasic, 17, a stu-

dent, said from a vaulted chamber in the town wall now serving as an air raid shelter. "Everyone stayed up late and we sang songs. We thought that was it, but we were very wrong," she said.

Church services were halted in Dubrovnik yesterday, but many people followed prayers relayed by radio from Zagreb cathedral. The 12th-century Church of the Transfiguration was badly hit on Friday and the city's cathedral and 18th-century Church of St Blaise were also damaged.

The attack also turned what should have been a weekend of celebration into one of fear. Zagreb's Philharmonic Orchestra was forced to cancel a celebratory concert in the city, once described as "the pearl of the Adriatic" renowned for its summer arts festivals.

UN observers said peace-keeping officials in Zagreb were trying to set up talks with army chiefs in Belgrade to arrange a ceasefire around Dubrovnik. (Reuters)

White hairs brought no pity from torturers of China's prisoners



Dai: denied entry on her return to China

A STUDENT leader who fled China after spending a year being moved from jail to jail has released an account of the way in which political prisoners as old as 70 were tortured.

The New York-based human rights organisation Asia Watch, which publishes the report today, says it has independently confirmed the account. It was written by Tang Boqiao, who took part in pro-democracy protests and was imprisoned in ten prisons in Hunan and Guangdong before being released. His report describes tortures in two prisons in Hunan. Perhaps

Tension is rising as the anniversary of the Tiananmen killings approaches, write Catherine Sampson in Peking and Jonathan Brande in Hong Kong

the worst case chronicled is that of a retired university professor in his seventies, arrested for supporting the students, who was for three months fixed to a "shackle board". This is a door-like plank fixed horizontally four inches above the ground. The prisoner lies on it and is shackled by his hands and

feet at the corners. After three months, Professor Peng was removed from the board and sent to a psychiatric hospital, where nobody has been allowed to visit him.

Asia Watch estimates that 1,000 people were detained in Hunan province alone for their involvement in the 1989 pro-democracy movement. It

also says that 26 condemned criminals who were executed in Changsha on June 9, 1990, were fixed to "shackle boards" for the two days before they died.

Peking admits that torture sometimes takes place in prisons, but says it is illegal and is punished when discovered. According to the report, however, guards routinely beat or whip prisoners, practise martial arts on them, or shackle them with metal restraints.

In Hunan's prisons, the electric cattle prod is a favourite instrument of torture, applied frequently to the neck,

face, ears and mouth. When a prisoner becomes injured by electric shocks and no longer reacts, the prod is held against the skin until it burns.

These disclosures come at a sensitive time. Thursday is the third anniversary of the Tiananmen Square killings, and as a measure of tension in Peking, Dai Qing, a prominent journalist who was imprisoned for more than a year, was on Saturday denied permission to re-enter China from Hong Kong.

The strain will not have been eased by an ill-advised remark by Alastair Goodlad,

a foreign office minister, on a visit to Hong Kong last week. Mr Goodlad's statement came in response to local pressure for increased democratic development before 1997.

Peking has refused to contemplate any increase in the number of directly elected members of Hong Kong's legislature, warning it is not willing to amend Hong Kong's post 1997 mini-constitution, the Basic Law. However, Mr Goodlad said he believed the Basic Law could be changed, provided there was the political will.



Goodlad: says Basic Law can be changed

ANC calls for mass action to speed end of white rule

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

A RINGING call for "unprecedented mass action" to hasten the end of white minority rule in South Africa marked the end of the African National Congress's four-day policy-making conference yesterday.

The 500-strong conference adopted a set of policy guidelines which are generally remarkable for their moderation, and speaker urged that the ANC should not promise more than the South African economy could bear. But the militant attitude to the deadlock in the constitutional talks promises a violent winter ahead (winter is just arriving in the southern hemisphere).

At the same time Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, who had just returned from a visit to one of the most violent squatter camps in the area, took the opportunity to make a stinging personal attack on President de Klerk. Mr de

Klerk left last night on a trip that will take him to Moscow, Tokyo and Singapore.

There also appears to be some hardening of the white community's reaction to the mounting black militancy. The Afrikaans Sunday paper *Rapport* yesterday said that government supporters were of the ANC attitude. The word essentially means they have had it up to here. A number of leading politicians were quoted as supporting this view.

Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC secretary general, promised that the mass action would officially begin if the government had not yielded sufficiently to the ANC point of view by the end of the month. "It is going to be rolling mass action: it is going to involve a whole lot of forms of action that our people have used in the past," he said. "It will also include new forms of mass action. You cannot rule out

forms of action like strikes, a general strike, stay-aways that may be limited, strikes that may be much longer than what we have had in the past, demonstrations, sit-ins."

But Ronnie Kasrils, of the South African Communist Party, who is head of the campaigning committee charged with co-ordinating the mass action, declared that the mass action would begin before the deadline expired. "The action will be stepped up in the most creative way, even while the deadline processes are under way," he said.

He suggested that one of the "creative" actions would be against the state-run South African Broadcasting Corporation. "We shall call on people to boycott goods advertised on SABC," he said.

Mr Mandela met the press immediately after a two-hour visit to Phola Park, a settlement of shacks and shacks on the outskirts of Thokosa, southeast of Johannesburg. The settlement has been subjected to an intense police operation aimed at trying to disarm the inhabitants, and is controlled by a breakaway group of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the ANC armed wing. The inhabitants have described instances of police brutality, including allegations of rape and murder, and the police in their turn have complained that five of their men have been killed and that they are fired on every day.

Israelis attack guerrilla bases

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI troops took tough retaliatory action yesterday against their enemies when fighter bombers and helicopter gunships attacked Lebanon again and Palestinians were sealed off in the occupied territories. Military authorities also blamed Jordan for a weekend attack on the resort town of Eilat.

In the latest of a two-week bout of clashes with the fundamentalist group Hezbollah, four Israeli air force fighter bombers destroyed a guerrilla training base near the Syrian border village of Janta, in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Minutes later two Cobra helicopter gunships fired rocket salvos at the homes of local Hezbollah leaders in the southern villages of Majdel Siliim and Beir Selsel.

The co-ordinated morning raids, part of a pattern of recent exchanges with the Iranian-backed guerrilla group, came 24 hours after two armed Palestinians landed in Eilat, killing an elderly Israeli security guard.

Although Israeli troops shot and killed one of the Palestinian commandos and injured and captured the other, the operation has heightened concern in Israel that the Jewish state is facing a serious worsening of guerrilla activity.

Yesterday, Moshe Arens, the defence minister, extended indefinitely an order preventing Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip from entering Israel, after two Israelis were killed last week by Palestinians from the coastal enclave. A similar restriction was imposed yesterday on Palestinians of the occupied West Bank, who were barred from entering Israel because of celebrations marking the 25th anniversary, in the Jewish calendar, of the capture of Jerusalem by Israeli forces in the six-day war.



Smiling plea: a mother embracing her child after Jerusalem was barred to West Bank Palestinians for the anniversary of the six-day war

which is less than a month away.

"Our capital is one, Jerusalem, for ever. Never will it be the capital of a foreign power," Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, said during the day-long ceremony. "Jerusalem is not a subject for bargaining or sale. Just as a man does not bargain over his heart, the people of Israel will not bargain over its nation's heart of hearts."

Although his ruling right-wing Likud party expects to improve its standing in the

polls as a result of fresh concerns over security, the opposition Labour party did not lose the opportunity of reminding Israelis of its own uncompromising stand on Jerusalem. Mr Shamir's promise never to relinquish or share any portion of the disputed city was echoed by Yitzhak Rabin, the Labour party leader who was the army chief of staff when Israeli troops won their great victory, including the capture of the Walling Wall.

The only citizens left unim-

pressed by the display of Israeli political one-upmanship were the Palestinian residents of Jerusalem, who reject the Zionist goal of a "single, unified and eternal capital of the Jewish state" and instead want to share the city as a joint capital of Israel and a future Palestinian state.

"What we witness today only confirms that Jerusalem cannot be unified while the celebrations are at the expense of the Palestinian people," Faisal Hussein, a Palestinian leader, said.

Disillusioned group turns against Zanu

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

A GROUP of prominent Zimbabweans has launched an organisation that aims to broaden political debate and build a credible alternative to the ruling Zanu (PF) party led by Robert Mugabe.

The Forum for Democratic Reform — led by lawyers, economists, businessmen and former judges, none of whom has played any key role in Zimbabwean party politics — announced at its inaugural press conference on Saturday that it planned to open a national debate on the country's economic and political future. It hoped that this process would lead to the formation of "political parties that

are built upon coherent social and economic platforms, and not tribal allegiances."

"There is a leadership in power now that has sailed through for 12 years since independence without any opposition, and doing what it likes," said Washington Sansole, a former high court judge and chairman of the trust that is to act as the forum's custodian. "The time has come now for people with honour to speak up. Enough is enough."

The popularity of Mr Mugabe and his party is at its lowest ebb as a result of state mismanagement, high-level corruption and the long-overdue introduction of economic reforms.



Mugabe: popularity at its lowest point

The new opposition parties formed in the past year, most of them led by elderly, discredited veterans of the pre-independence political era, have been greeted with a sense of weariness.

Forum officials emphasise that the body will not be a political party, but that as a think-tank it can be "the source of a new party". Its composition, with a significant proportion of prominent white and mixed-race professionals, has given some cause for optimism.

He accused the white-dominated press of having no experience of life in the townships. "They are not aware of the crimes which have been committed in this country by the head of state de Klerk," he said.

"Do you think de Klerk promotes the cause of peace in this country when he allows his battalions to attack and kill innocent people; when he changes the law to give killers the capacity to kill innocent women and children?" he asked.

Israeli attack guerrilla bases

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI troops took tough retaliatory action yesterday against their enemies when fighter bombers and helicopter gunships attacked Lebanon again and Palestinians were sealed off in the occupied territories. Military authorities also blamed Jordan for a weekend attack on the resort town of Eilat.

In the latest of a two-week bout of clashes with the fundamentalist group Hezbollah, four Israeli air force fighter bombers destroyed a guerrilla training base near the Syrian border village of Janta, in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Minutes later two Cobra helicopter gunships fired rocket salvos at the homes of local Hezbollah leaders in the southern villages of Majdel Siliim and Beir Selsel.

The co-ordinated morning raids, part of a pattern of recent exchanges with the Iranian-backed guerrilla group, came 24 hours after two armed Palestinians landed in Eilat, killing an elderly Israeli security guard.

Although Israeli troops shot and killed one of the Palestinian commandos and injured and captured the other, the operation has heightened concern in Israel that the Jewish state is facing a serious worsening of guerrilla activity.

Yesterday, Moshe Arens, the defence minister, extended indefinitely an order preventing Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip from entering Israel, after two Israelis were killed last week by Palestinians from the coastal enclave. A similar restriction was imposed yesterday on Palestinians of the occupied West Bank, who were barred from entering Israel because of celebrations marking the 25th anniversary, in the Jewish calendar, of the capture of Jerusalem by Israeli forces in the six-day war.

The occasion was marked yesterday by a display of nationalist fervour when tens of thousands of schoolchildren and conscripted soldiers, waving Star of David flags and singing patriotic songs, paraded through the city streets, including the Palestinian nationalist strongholds of Arab East Jerusalem.

The combination of patriotic emotion and the heightened tensions caused by the recent outbreak of violence inevitably attracted Israeli political candidates eager to make an impression in the run-up to the general elec-

NEWS IN BRIEF

Brigadier proposed as Fiji leader

Suva: Brigadier Sitiveni Rabuka was endorsed by his party yesterday as Fiji's next prime minister, after the first elections held in the country since his 1987 coup.

The party has put his name forward to President Ganulau. No party won an outright majority in the election, and under Fiji's constitution the president must appoint an indigenous prime minister who he believes has the majority support of the parliament.

If his name is accepted by the president, Brigadier Rabuka will form a coalition government with his Fijian Political party. (Reuters)

Name given

Bangkok: Anit Uthairat, the president of the Thai parliament said that he would be submitting the name of another prime minister, probably a civilian, to King Bhumibol Adulyadej today. (Reuters)

Tamils killed

Colombo: Sri Lankan soldiers killed at least 125 separatist Tamil Tiger guerrillas in a single day as the army pushed home anti-rebel offensives in the Jaffna and Mullaitivu districts in the north of the island. (Reuters)

Students protest

Seoul: About 30,000 protesting students from 180 South Korean universities and colleges broke through police cordons to occupy the centre of Seoul in the largest anti-government demonstration this year. (Reuters)

Leader stoned

Port Moresby: A helicopter carrying Pias Wingit, leader of Papua New Guinea's opposition, was forced to abort a landing at a tea plantation rally when an angry crowd threw spears, sticks and rocks at it. (Reuters)

Togolese clash

Lomé: Ethnic clashes sparked by a land dispute at Sotouboua in central Togo, 150 miles north of here, have left at least 20 people dead and 40 injured. David Ihou, the health minister, said. (AFP)

Louvre closed

Paris: A strike by security guards demanding more money and better working conditions closed the Louvre Museum and the Orsay Museum across the Seine in the middle of the tourist season. (AP)

Maastricht shows up national dilemma

Danish war hero resists new conquest

FRØDE Jakobsen has spent much of his long life fighting to stop outside powers interfering with Denmark, but he fears that the Danes are on the verge of submerging their identity in a Europe dominated by their big neighbours.

Mr Jakobsen, 85, is a small, white-haired man with an unexpectedly hard stare. In Copenhagen's museum devoted to the second world war resistance movement, his lined face looks out of a photograph of the underground leaders who formed half of Denmark's first post-war government.

Danes are still struggling with the dilemma of how to live with Germany's vast power across their southern border and a turbulent Europe beyond. "Our choice," a Copenhagen professor grimly commented, "is between becoming a province of Europe or a German colony."

Mr Jakobsen thinks Brussels is more dangerous than Berlin. He sabotaged German troop trains in occupied Denmark during the second world war, campaigned as an MP against Denmark join-

ing the EC in 1972 and now, in retirement, ruminates on his countrymen's failure to see that the EC's Maastricht treaty spells the end of Danishness.

As the rest of the EC looks anxiously on tomorrow, Denmark votes in a referendum on whether or not to ratify the treaty. Mr Jakobsen hopes for a No, but thinks there will be a Yes. He rejects the post-war consensus between France, Germany and America that the strongest guarantee against the danger of another European war was a community not only built on free trade but with supra-national political powers which would evolve into a federation. "There is no danger of war in Western Europe," he said. "Not between Germany and France, not between France and Britain, not between Britain and Germany. Co-operation in Europe, yes. But I am against

this European union." To most people in the Community, the Danes are known for their domestic contentment, prickly suspicion of Brussels directives and for being preoccupied with running a high-performance economy. But talking to Mr Jakobsen in his seaside bungalow facing the marshes and the channel separating Denmark from Sweden, one can hear the fears and hard choices which haunt a tiny state of five million people.

There is a contradiction between democracy and what they are going to do in the European union. Denmark will have no say in the European parliament. Democracy is only possible within a people. What counts is that people must know the people they elect and those whom they elect must have influence.

As the EC acquires wider power and stumbles towards

a common foreign and defence policy, Germany, France, Britain and Italy will increasingly push the smaller powers aside, he says. "They are not the right people to decide for Denmark. When you can no longer decide what is right or wrong in world affairs, when you can no longer act according to your conscience or identity — then you have ceased to be a people."

But this is a lonely voice lost on the wind of economic change. Religion and history tie Danes to Norway and Sweden but none of the 20th-century attempts to bind the Nordic economies together have come anywhere near matching the magnetic economic power of the European Community.

● Poll swing: Danish public opinion appears to be swinging towards a yes vote tomorrow. Six opinion polls over the past week have found the percentage of those intending to vote for ratification of the treaty rise from 39 per cent to 44. A weekend poll found the yes campaign 9 per cent ahead; a week ago the no campaign had a 2 per cent advantage.

Yeltsin sacks minister for energy

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin dismissed his young minister of energy, Vladimir Lopukhin, at the weekend and said that Russia would not meet Western demands for a swift end to state controls on domestic energy prices.

Mr Yeltsin was chairing a meeting of government and oil industry officials called to discuss the sharp fall in energy production and widespread concern that higher energy prices could provoke political instability.

"Despite the demands of the International Monetary Fund for the immediate freeing of energy prices," Mr Yeltsin said, "there is no way we can do that for the time being because we may lose control of the political situation." He said freeing fuel prices would cause enormous increases in prices for all other goods. Viktor Chernenyrdin, former Soviet minister for gas, will replace Mr Lopukhin, a staunch supporter of freeing prices.

FBI arrives in Sicily to join search for Falcone's killers

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

A POOL of about 20 magistrates who volunteered for the investigation into the assassination of Giovanni Falcone, the anti-Mafia judge, started work yesterday as the authorities in Rome invited Judge Paolo Borsellino to succeed the murdered magistrate.

The enquiry into the murder on May 23 of Signor Falcone, his wife and their three police bodyguards, gathered pace with the arrival in Sicily of a team of FBI investigators from America who last weekend began work at the scene of the bombing outside Palermo. In another development, a Buenos Aires court agreed to extradite to Italy Gaetano Fidanzi, a mafioso who was arrested in Argentina in 1990. He previously controlled crime gangs active at a Sicilian seaside resort where Signor Falcone had a villa in which he escaped another attempt on his life in 1979.

Vincenzo Scotti, the interior minister, proposed Signor Borsellino, the deputy chief prosecutor in Palermo, for the

job of National Anti-Mafia Prosecutor, a newly created post with wide powers to control and co-ordinate the fight against organised crime. Signor Falcone had been expected to become the first judge to hold.

Signor Borsellino worked closely with Signor Falcone in Sicily. Signor Borsellino has reserved judgement on whether to present his candidature, saying it will depend in part on how much he is encouraged by the extent of state support for the investigation into the killing of his mentor. Sicilian judges frequently complain of being isolated by authorities in Rome where the Mafia has its own political lobbyists.

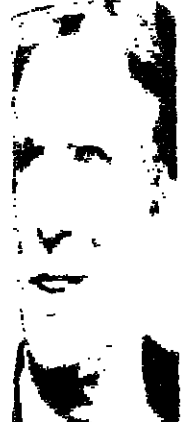
"It is difficult this time to find the same enthusiasm," Signor Borsellino said in a radio interview. "I hope that a rapid conclusion to the inquiry into the Falcone assassination will make my enthusiasm return."

Claudio Martelli, the justice minister, is to meet with magistrates' representatives

to allay fears that the appointment of a government-backed candidate for the new job constitutes an unwarranted interference in judicial independence. "After the dismay and the mourning it is time to react so that the assassination of Falcone is shown to be the worst affair for the Mafia in its history," Signor Martelli said. The minister said he was preparing a series of tough new laws to be presented to Giulio Andreotti's caretaker government this week to assist in the battle against the Sicilian underworld.

The measures include allowing investigators more time for preliminary inquiries into Mafia crimes, more autonomy for police from magistrates and the easing of evidence requirements for conviction in Mafia trials. Mafiosi who turn state's evidence would receive bigger rewards and more protection and national servicemen would be drafted into overcrowded prisons to make up for a shortage of warders.

Bush den
rumours
shake-up
campaign



Candidates
nots bandwa

Bush denies rumours of shake-up in campaign

FROM JAMIE DEITMER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush denied yesterday that he is considering replacing Samuel Skinner as his White House chief of staff with James Baker, the Secretary of State, as part of a campaign staff shake-up to combat the growing appeal of Ross Perot, the Texan billionaire who has led the president in the last two national opinion polls.

Senior White House aides admitted at the weekend that several of the president's financial backers are becoming nervous of Mr Bush's chances of re-election. While denying that he urged Mr Bush last week to appoint Mr Baker, Robert Mosbacher, the titular head of the president's campaign, has agreed that the Secretary of State "can be part of the solution".

There has been a flurry of newspaper reports in the past few weeks of Mr Baker's possible return to the White House, where he served as Ronald Reagan's chief of staff. Mr Baker, who is understood to be considering a 1996 run for the presidency, has let it be known that he does not want to leave the State Department. However, the rise of Mr Perot in the polls has increased the pressure on Mr Bush to instil a definite direction into his campaigning.

Mr Mosbacher, one of Mr Bush's oldest friends, has been besieged by several of the president's financial donors, who are angry at the appearance of drift in the campaign, according to Republican sources. Senior aides to Dan Quayle, the vice-president, have publicly criticised the White House operation and suggested that Mr Skinner is not up to the job. William Bennett, the former head of the office of national drug control and an influential conservative, said yesterday: "From what I understand, the president is not very happy with the way things are going."

White House aides who are critical of Mr Skinner are comparing the malaise in the campaign with the drift that undermined Mr Bush's presidential run in the summer of 1988 when Mr Baker was treasury secretary. Mr Bush slid badly in the opinion polls and criticism of his campaign mounted. Before the Republican convention, the calls for Mr Baker to return to the White House reached a crescendo and he left the treasury to take charge.

On Saturday, while campaigning in California, Mr Bush banged his head on the roof of his car several times as he repeated that Mr Mosbacher had not urged him to call in Mr Baker. "No, absolutely not," he said.

US News and World Report yesterday claimed that the shake-up would be even more widespread. It reported that Mr Bush was considering shifting Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, to the State Department and replacing him with General Colin Powell, head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



Mosbacher: thinks Baker could assist

Candidates ride riots bandwagon

Images of the rioting dominate the California primary, Peter Stothard, US Editor, writes from Los Angeles

Last month the riots, tomorrow the votes, soon the books and the movies. The memory of the Rodney King beating trial is taking many forms before it finally fades.

As the California primary campaigns come to an end, two images of the affair predominate. The first is the flaming sky of Los Angeles in the television commercials of Mel Levine, Democratic Senate candidate. Congressman Levine, a conventional liberal like his opponents, seized upon the riots to make himself seem different and more conservative by saying that "a democratic society can't tolerate mob rule".

Before the riots Mr Levine was much less well known than his opponents. Barbara Boxer and Leo McCarthy: now he is the least obscure. According to conventional wisdom, the riots ought to favour Republicans in November. But if Mr Levine wins tomorrow and keeps up his law and order stance, he may find himself in the general election running to the right of the Republicans.

The second image is the beating of a white truck driver by black rioters. The aptly named Gray Davis, the Democrat running a poor second behind Diane Feinstein in the battle for the second Senate seat, chose to use this news film to boost his appeal. "A democracy cannot tolerate mob violence, black or white," Mr Davis says, blaming "liberals and conservatives" for the disaster.

Ms Feinstein, the popular former mayor of San Francisco, came close to defeating Pete Wilson, a Republican, in the 1990 governor's race. She is pro-death penalty and has a strong law and order reputation. It would be surprising if Mr Davis's attempt to use the riots for political gain turned out to be any more than a desperate last throw.

On the Republican side, Senator John Seymour also uses riot film in his advertisements. He is weakened by his need to stand close by the policies of George

Bush which, as was shown in the president's trip to Los Angeles on Friday, remain an unconvincing mixture of tough talk and federal handouts. On this issue, as on so many others in this "year of the outsider", it is better to be as far as possible from where decisions are made and to let the images do the talking.

Mr Seymour's opponent, William Dannemeyer, believes, however, that the elimination of prayer in public schools was the prime cause of the troubles. This view, albeit frequently expressed, has not caught the spirit of the times, and Mr Seymour is likely to win an easy chance to fight Ms Feinstein in November. That will be one of the most hard-fought Senate races of the year.

In the other Republican primary, the race is much closer. Tom Campbell is a moderate conservative who embraces the full empowerment philosophy of housing control by tenants and social security reform associated with Jack Kemp, the housing and urban development secretary. But his more conservative opponent, Bruce Herschensohn, a television commentator, has argued hard for no federal aid at all.

Mr Campbell calls the guilty rioters "evil people"; Mr Herschensohn prefers "rotten people". By nature Mr Herschensohn is the better name-caller, but this is one race where that may not be enough for victory.

The riots have not helped Bill Clinton, despite his powerful rhetorical reaction to them. Since he has already overwhelmed Jerry Brown for the nomination, the Democrat candidate's best hope is that by November some wholly different image is on the voters' mind.

In the Republican presidential race the riots ought perhaps to have helped Patrick Buchanan. But that race is over. He has called for tough punishments for rioters and moral renewal for everyone else. But these days there are more security men listening than voters.



Suicide rescue: a Haitian man is pulled into a fishing boat after he jumped from a US Coast Guard cutter repatriating refugees to Port-au-Prince. He claimed to be an army deserter and tried to hang himself with a rope. He fought off American lifersavers for ten minutes, screaming: "I prefer to die."

Patriarch invites the Duke to Istanbul

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived in Istanbul yesterday at the invitation of Bartholomew, the Oecumenical Patriarch and leader of the Orthodox faith. The Duke went straight from the airport to attend a religious service and will be taken today by Turkish vessel to attend an environment conference being organised by the church.

York concerts have been postponed because of her illness.

Actor Glenn Ford, 76, suffering pneumonia and blood clots in his lungs, is improving in hospital. A spokesman said: "He is still critical but now stable."

President de Klerk flies into Tokyo on Wednesday for the first visit to Japan by a South African head of state. He will be hoping to woo life-giving investments from Japan.

General Fidel Ramos, front-runner in the fight for the Philippines presidency, says that he will order an early review of Manila's relations with Washington and expects the country to shift closer to Japan.

Southfork, the ranch for ten years was home to J.R. Ewing, played by Larry Hagman, during the television run of Dallas, has been sold for \$2.6 million (£1.4 million) to Rex Maughan, an Arizona businessman.

Sir Richard Attenborough is shooting *Charlie*, the life story of his idol *Charlie Chaplin*. The film will cover the actor's long professional life from his music hall debut at the age of five to his triumphant return to Hollywood in 1972 to receive a special Oscar. EL4

Cybill Shepherd, Kim Basinger and Jacy Smith will be among the former Breck girls to hang in the Breck Hall of Fame, intended to house portraits of women who graced the company's shampoo advertisements from the 1930s.

Bronchitis and sinusitis have Cher fans singing the blues. All five of her sold-out New

* Calculation based on the net rate payable on a current account balance of £1,000 between 1 May 1991 and 30 April 1992. Net is the rate after the deduction of basic rate income tax. ** All interest rates shown are gross per annum. Gross is the rate before the deduction of basic rate income tax. Interest is payable monthly. We pay gross interest to customers who register as non-tax payers or non-UK residents and not to all other customers. All interest rates quoted were correct as at 15 May 1992, and are subject to variation. † Research undertaken by NOP Market Research among 500 randomly selected Firstdirect customers. Interviews were conducted by telephone between 22 November 1991 and 8 December 1991. Firstdirect credit facilities are subject to status. Enquiries must be aged 18 or over. For written details of our services write to Firstdirect, Freepost 1K16, Leeds LS11 0YF. Firstdirect is a division of Midland Bank plc.

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	Credit interest payable on a current account balance of £1000 for 12 months to 30.4.92 (net†)	Current interest rate on a balance of £1000 (Gross % p.a.†)
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LLOYDS Classic	£21.12	2.00
NATWEST Current Plus	£15.85	1.50
TSB Interest Cheque Account	£31.73	2.50
FIRSTDIRECT Cheque Account	£42.52	3.75

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BC026

World leaders seek to put planet's economy on a safer path



Brundtland: report led to the Rio meeting

THE danger of human activity outrunning the capacity of the Earth to cope with it will bring about the biggest ever gathering of world leaders in one place at the Earth Summit, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which begins here today.

Heads of state and government from nearly 150 countries, from the United States to the Maldives, will be asked to sanction the most ambitious of all initiatives — a new future for the planet. They will be asked to agree a new environmental path for the world economy, to prevent the Earth's life-support systems, its atmosphere, fertile soil, rivers and oceans, breaking down under the stresses of unrestrained industrial growth and exploding world population.

History offers few hopeful precedents for all the world's leaders agreeing on anything, and the odds are not good

from the long preparatory negotiations about the summit agenda, a 750-page detailed plan for the Earth's future, called Agenda 21. The talks have been largely polarised by a split between the industrialised countries of the North and the developing countries of the South, over how much the South should be paid to ensure that its future economic growth does not wreak environmental havoc. Even heads of state and government, horse-trading together in the ante-rooms of Rio, may be unable to paper this over.

Yet only such a concave of world leaders could generate the political will to bring about the fundamental shift in economic practice that is now necessary, according to the conference's moving spirits, the 22 members of the UN's World Commission on Environment and Development, chaired by Gro Harlem Brundtland, the prime minister of Norway. Their

Michael McCarthy, the Environment Correspondent, reports from Rio de Janeiro that North-South divisions can still hamper global rescue efforts

1987 report, *Our Common Future*, which led directly to the summit being called, graphically presented the accumulating signs of environmental and human strain — global warming, the threat to the ozone layer, disappearing species, deforestation and desertification, as well as the ever-deepening poverty in the Third World — as symptoms of a single problem, the exhaustion by human beings of the carrying capacity of the Earth.

Although economic growth has been responsible for much environmental degradation, it had to continue, the Brundtland commissioners said in their report, or the destitution of much of the

Third World would get even worse. Their solution was a new form of growth: sustainable development, or growth which does not compromise the prospects of future generations. Its key principle is never to take an economic decision without regard to its environmental consequences.

Getting the world onto a sustainable development path is the summit's avowed purpose. The Rio meeting, with its conglomeration of world leaders of every faith and political creed, its parallel conference of 15,000 environmentalists, its media circus, its photo-opportunities with President Bush, promises to become a jamboree where there are almost as



many agendas as people. Yet the organisers have not lost sight of sustainable development as its central objective. "The Earth Summit is a summit about economics," says the conference's secretary-general, Maurice Strong, a Canadian millionaire businessman-turned-environmentalist. Mr Strong,

63, a member of the Brundtland commission, is the man behind Agenda 21, which is a detailed blueprint for putting sustainable development into action in every country.

Originally, Mr Strong had hoped that it would become a binding work programme for the world, with fixed targets and timetables. This has proved hopelessly ambitious.

There has been extensive agreement over Agenda 21's contents, but fierce arguments too, the biggest over the question of population growth, which developing countries often regard as an issue with racist and imperialist overtones. The Brundtland commissioners admitted that it was their most difficult question, but they did not shrink from it and it figured prominently in their report. However, in resolution 44/228 of the UN General Assembly, which in 1989 called for the Earth Summit to be held in response to Our

Common Future, the question of population was absent. Mr Strong has made sure it is included in Agenda 21, but it does not have a section to itself, and there has been fierce criticism of its lack of prominence.

The most intractable question, however, is money. Mr Strong has always said that for Agenda 21 to be put into practice in the Third World there would have to be a substantial increase in global North-South aid flows, currently running at \$55 billion (£30 billion); the figure of an extra \$70 billion annually is the cost his policy-makers have arrived at.

Taking their cue from him, the developing countries, which are known collectively as the Group of 77, have demanded it. The industrialised countries of the North, principally the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development have refused.

Bush will sign pact on global warming

THE summit's first achievement will be a collection of signatures, headed by that of President Bush, on the first, tentative treaty to protect the world from global warming.

The framework convention on climate change, which envisages countries controlling emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases, is open for signing in Rio de Janeiro from Thursday. When the text was agreed finally in New York on May 9 after 15 months of bargaining among 143 nations, it was denounced at once as a sell-out by environmentalists, and

Michael McCarthy looks at the pact on carbon dioxide emissions in the first of a series from Rio de Janeiro

(IPCC), set up to investigate and report rapidly on the phenomenon. After an 18-month study they said, in careful but unanimous language, that if economics continued putting carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere on a "business as usual" basis, the Earth's global mean temperature would be likely to rise by about one degree Centigrade by 2025, and by three degrees by the end of the next century.

Expansion of the seas as they warmed would bring about rising levels, with a rise of about 20cm (8in) expected by the year 2030, and 65cm by the year 2100. This would spell trouble for millions of people in low-lying coastal areas, from the Thames estuary to the Nile delta and most of Bangladesh; low-lying islands such as the Maldives would disappear.

The World Climate Conference in Geneva in 1990 agreed that the developed nations should take a lead, as most of the extra CO₂ in the atmosphere has been put there by the industrialised countries since the industrial revolution. The principal difficulty was how to get the United States to join.

The world's largest economy is also the world's largest emitter of CO₂ — 23 per cent of the global total. Cutting back on the basis of all industrial activity was immediately perceived by American businessmen and politicians as a serious threat to their economic well-being, and the whole idea met fierce resistance within the Bush administration.

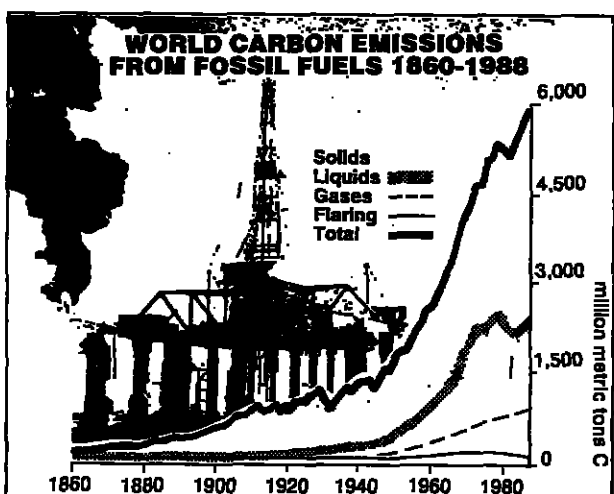
The environmentally concerned countries of northern Europe — The Netherlands, Germany and Denmark — pushed hard for a legally binding, if preliminary, CO₂ target: stabilisation of emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2000. The US resisted the idea of any named target whatever. Eventually, after 15 months of talks and a final ten days of round-the-clock haggling in New York, the binding commitments were dropped, and compromise prevailed, partly brokered by Britain after a visit to Washington by Michael Howard, the environment secretary. Mr Bush, his aim achieved, announced that he would attend the summit.

The compromise explains the differing accounts of the treaty as historic breakthrough and sell-out. There is, at long last, a target (stabilisation by the year 2000 at 1990 levels) to which America joins other developed countries in subscribing. Yet it is couched in convoluted language and is a guideline, rather than a legal commitment.

For many green campaigners, this lack of a legally binding commitment renders the text impotent. It is a toothless treaty. Friends of the Earth and other disappointed pressure groups say, and all the more so as the target envisaged seems a hopelessly inadequate counter-measure to the global warming threat.

But the convention commits all signatories to report regularly on the measures they are taking to counter global warming. If much more stringent CO₂ targets become obviously necessary, the process by which they can be negotiated is now in place.

Rio treaty threatened, page 1
Leading article, page 15



Negotiators to tackle aid for Third World

June 1-2: Pre-conference adoption of procedural matters. It will aim to reach agreement on all organisational issues to be dealt with on the opening day of the conference, including adoption of the rules of procedure, the agenda and the working programme.

June 3: Boutros Boutros Ghali, secretary general of the United Nations, opens conference. President Collor de Mello of Brazil and Maurice Strong, secretary general of the conference, expected to speak.

June 3-11: General debate as nations reveal their positions on environmental issues. Heads of state and government will describe how they are tackling environmental problems and how they intend to achieve sustainable development in their respective countries.

Also speaking will be about 80 intergovernmental organisations, agencies and UN programmes as well as a number of non-governmental organisations. The declaration on environment and development and the statement on forest principles will be the subject of final negotiation.

Negotiating sessions will also be held on the outstanding issues, including the transfer of environmentally sound technology and the provision of finance to developing countries for sustainable development programmes. The main committees will meet on June 3 to decide how this work should be allocated and organised.

June 4: Climate change convention opened for signature. It will remain open for signature until June 14.

There are no arrangements for signing the controversial convention on environment and development.

June 5: World Environment Day. A special ceremony will be co-hosted by King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden and President Collor.

June 12-13: Heads of state summit.

June 14: Signing ceremony.



Feathers in their caps: a Carajá Indian from Brazil prepares for a religious ceremony in Rio de Janeiro at the World Conference of Indigenous Peoples. The conference is intended as a preparatory event for the Earth Summit in Rio that starts today

Samba beat carries dissenting view

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN RIO DE JANEIRO

AS WORLD leaders prepare for their consultations, independent environmentalists from all over the world will today open an alternative conference to discuss the "environment on a more human level" in colourful tents lining one of Rio's music-filled beaches.

The "92 Global Forum" — organised by more than 400 non-governmental organisations — aims to provide an alternative voice to discussions by world leaders at the summit. To keep in tune with *Carloos* — the name used for Rio inhabitants, and their love of dancing and music — the environmentalists have planned samba marches and concerts to carry the message to politicians discussing global warming and deforestation in the conference hall. "We think that the main objective of the summit will not be fulfilled. So we have got to

gather anybody who is interested in environment to make our own agreement," said Manuel Baquedano, from the Institute of Chilean Ecology. "As environmentalists, we

have the obligation to provide an alternative for people expecting positive results."

Environmentalists are angered by America's refusal to sign a bio-diversity accord. The agreement would have confirmed tangible value to species in biologically diverse regions, such as the Amazon rainforest, and requires the payment of royalties to local or indigenous people for the use of genetic materials. "We fear their refusal was a sign that almost nothing concrete will come out of the official conference, so we have to do

something ourselves," Señor Baquedano said.

Also unlikely to come out of the summit is an agreement on world population control, because of the contradictory interests of the Vatican and Muslim countries, which will oppose birth control. Western leaders are also unlikely to sign a defined pact on levels of carbon dioxide emissions allowed, since, in per capita terms, individuals in the North generate ten times as much CO₂ from energy use as their counterparts in developing countries.

Silvia Ribeiro, of a Uruguayan environmental group, said: "The official conference will not be able to find solutions that everyone agrees with. We are trying to concentrate on making regional agreements, small-scale projects to meet the needs of individuals. Politics and eco-

nomics will be more important than the environment for world leaders."

South American environmentalists are seeking to bring their debt problems into the discussion, claiming that the pressure of huge debts and interest repayment commitments is having a negative effect on the environment.

Brazilian environmentalists will also raise objections to Western leaders' suggestions for making the Amazon rainforest a "property of humanity". Vast stretches of the Amazon jungle, which houses the world's largest selection of species and which is a treasure for genetic research, have been cleared to build motorways and factories for speculators. But the environmentalists believe Brazilians have to tackle the problem of deforestation of the Amazon themselves.

IN BRIEF

Pope urges flock to pray for success

Vatican City: Pope John Paul has urged his flock to pray for a successful outcome to this week's Earth summit in Brazil. Speaking in St Peter's Square, the Pope said the aim was to study the relationship between environmental protection and development.

"These are problems which have at their root a deep ethical dimension and which therefore involve the human person," the Pope said. "The Vatican has rejected that the world population needs cutting. (Reuters)

Horns removed

Harare: Game wardens are starting to dehorn 300 black rhinos in Zimbabwe in an attempt to save them from poachers. This year 57 rhinos have been killed, and experts give the animal just two years to survive here. (Reuters)

Junk recycled

New Age refugees, attending a global youth forum on the environment, recently erected a protest sculpture outside the Rio Centro made of rubbish fished from a canal, but they have been made to put it back in the water.

Drum protest

Brazilian Indians living in a village for indigenous people in the grounds of a mental hospital say they will roll their drums throughout the meeting in protest at the government's choice for the village's location.

Ash scattered

Manila: Rain triggered explosions in pockets of super-heated debris from Mount Pinatubo that erupted in the Philippines last June. The explosions scattered volcanic ash over much of central Luzon island. (AP)

Children of the street are kept in the shadows

FROM MAC MARGOLIS IN RIO DE JANEIRO

Adrianinha is a 12-year-old Brazilian girl who looks about eight but is already thoroughly street-wise. She wears mauve lipstick and nail polish, and sizes you up to see if you are a potential ally (a *sanguie bom*, or "good blood"), or a cop (a *lata*).

Talk to her for a little while and you will learn all about Rio street life: where to sleep without getting bullied by police, how to pick a pocket and melt away into the night, and where to buy cocaine. A swollen mound on her left foot marks the spot where a 22 calibre bullet, an emblem of a street fight, is lodged.

Presidents and prime ministers from all over the world are about to descend upon Adrianinha's city for

the Earth Summit. But their worlds will never meet. For months, the Brazilians have been getting Rio ready for the "summit of the century". The plazas where the street kids sleep, play, sniff glue and pick pockets have been cleaned up and the street kids shooed away. The diplomats discussing the fate of the Earth will be insulated from what Rio's mayor, Marcello Alencar, deplored as the "anarchy" of the street — the vendors, beggars and kids who reign over the city centre.

But that is no matter to Adrianinha. She and her friends are Brazil's smallest nomads. Almost every night, the street kids roam the shadow-swathed centre city. They sleep where they can — by a porno theatre, in a va-

cant stoop, on a park bench. Contrary to some sensationalist reports, Brazil's cities are not teeming with millions of abandoned children.

THE REAL RIO

In all of Brazil, there are perhaps 200,000 homeless children, and a recent survey found that in Rio only about 1,000 kids spend all night on the street. Yet the street is a second home to tens of thousands of children, who are ordered by their parents to hit the pavement to earn vital family income.

Like most street kids, Adrianinha has a home of sorts, a hovel in a single corridor of shanties by an open sewage ditch, a short bus ride from downtown. Her family moved there a

little over a year ago when the rent got too steep in Queimadas, a rural village not far from Rio.

Unlike many of her street friends, she was not beaten or molested by a drunken stepfather or an irascible grandparent. Her single mother simply could not afford to support four children and a grandchild on the meagre wage she earned sweeping up at a hospital.

Adrianinha first left home at the age of six, when she got tired of handing over to her mother the day's take from selling oranges and sweets in downtown Rio. She has never looked back. "The street is better," she says. "I have a lot of friends here. There are fights, but I am friends with everybody."

Now and then, her mother tries to persuade her to come home. But she does not stay long. "Nobody can hold her back any more," said Maria do Carmo Conceicao, Adrianinha's mother, shaking her head. "She is going to die on the street some day."

Authorities say that 306 children were murdered last year, nearly a thousand in all Brazil. In the past, most of these killings were attributed to "death squads" of moonlighting police hired by merchants to clean up the streets. Now wars between rival drug gangs, who have virtually taken over many slums, have claimed just as many victims. "There is a war going on," says sociologist Herbert de Souza.

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**FOR THE RELIEF OF BACKACHE, RHEUMATIC
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FRAGRANCE-FREE COLOURLESS NON-GREASY

AVAILABLE FROM YOUR PHARMACIST

Ibuleve in newspapers.

TENSE, nervous marketing directors take note. In May 1991, Ibuleve was launched solely in National press. Within three months, it had become brand leader in its sector, and within its first year grabbed nearly a third of market share. Results like these are as common as the common cold, because the printed word works where television can't. At the office, on the bus, in the doctor's waiting room. If you're trying to build a healthy business, get your product in the newspapers.

**PEOPLE
READ
NEWS-
PAPERS**

Is there a Perot in the House?

Anti-politics candidates can prosper here too, writes Peter Riddell

The mere mention of Ross Perot's name is sufficient to bring out the innate condescension of many British politicians towards American elections — their length, their cost, their vulgarity and tendency to produce weird candidates. Of course, Mr Perot could never succeed here, thank heavens, they say. But why not? The Perot phenomenon has happened here, and could again.

Mr Perot is, as Jeeves said of Nietzsche, unsound. He is not the itchy-white saviour, innocent of the wicked ways of Washington, that he would like to appear. He has a long record of political involvement, of seeking and offering favours, going back to the presidency of Richard Nixon. The creation of his fortune from his computer software company was assisted by government contracts.

The support he has generated is as interesting as the man himself. Recent polls show him up with George Bush and Bill Clinton and ahead in nine out of 25 surveys in individual states, including California and Texas. As Peter Stothard wrote on this page last Tuesday, Washington has begun to speculate about a Perot presidency. Whatever happens to him up to polling day in November, this support shows the scale of frustration with the main candidates and with Washington's failure to deal with America's domestic difficulties. The draft

Perot movement arises out of a rejection of the political establishment. His attraction as the anti-politics candidate is as much for what he does not say as for what he does. Voters can project their own wishes on to him since he has so far committed himself to so little. Mr Perot offers the simple virtues of the "can do" spirit of strong leadership achieving results, never mind the methods. He both evades questions about detailed policies and about how they will be agreed and implemented. He has proposed electronic town meetings on television, through which the public would be informed by him of the choice and then vote directly via remote control.

The fallacy, and danger, in Mr Perot's essentially authoritarian appeal is that of many businessmen who aspire to be leaders, such as Cecil King in the late 1960s. They believe there is some simple solution to a nation's difficulties that is being obstructed by the greed and incompetence of politicians but which can be imposed by an executive order, as in a company. That ignores the legitimate, differing interests that politicians represent and which a democracy seeks to reconcile through compromise. The difficulty in America now is not that the politicians are insufficiently responsive to voters' wishes, but that they are too responsive. The solution is not to override the democratic process but to make it work better, which may require an end to the split party control of the executive and legislature.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Opposition to the existing political system was also behind the brief, heady success of the Social Democrats here a decade ago, when, in alliance with the Liberals, they achieved an opinion poll rating of just over 50 per cent. While the SDP was originally formed out of the Labour's old pro-European wing, the party rapidly attracted many who, like Mr Perot's supporters, were alienated from the political process, the coyly named political virgins. There was talk of "breaking the mould" and "a new start". A spirit of non-political idealism sustained the SDP through the 1983 election. But the roots were not deep enough to weather the disappointments and internal feuding of 1987. Most of the newcomers have now dropped out, disillusioned as much by the messy methods of politics as by their lack of success.

'If America is suffering from the stalemate of competing interests, Britain is facing the opposite threat'

No one would claim that the fastidious whig Roy Jenkins was like Ross Perot, but in his heyday from 1982 until 1986 David Owen attracted comparable support from those looking for clearcut solutions and strong leadership, a more humane Margaret Thatcher. Like Mr Perot, Dr Owen was compared to de Gaulle, and less

fairly, to that earlier anti-party mentor Oswald Mosley. Paddy Ashdown has, more ambiguously, also followed that approach, seeking to appear above the party battle. There may be minority support for such an anti-politics approach, but it has not prospered for long, not only because it is impossible to take the politics out of politics but because the political system has proved flexible. The SDP/Liberal upsurge in 1981 reflected the coincidence that both the Tories and Labour were in trouble. Labour could not benefit from the recession and the inner-city riots because it was led by Michael Foot and Bennism was rife, creating the opportunity for a third party. But the Tories, helped by the political impact of the Falklands war, adapted, and after the electoral disaster of 1983 Neil Kinnock started Labour's long march back towards the middle ground. Similarly, when the Tories were heading for defeat in 1990, Mrs Thatcher was ousted.

John Major is no doubt much to be preferred to Mr Perot. But that does not mean we can be complacent, secretly enjoying America's troubles. The Tories have been resilient so far, but continued one party rule has its costs, undermining local democracy and pluralism. If the American political system is suffering from inertia and the stalemate of competing interests, then Britain is vulnerable to the opposite threat, of insufficient checks and balances.

Peter Millar looks forward to the day when Britain relaxes in the sun in a civilised manner

Inglorious summer

continentals do it better. Yet we rarely ask why. Partly that is because when we think of pavement cafes we imagine Paris and excuse ourselves by saying that the French are different, and anyhow have better weather. It won't wash. The ability to take summer in one's stride extends far north, through Amsterdam, Berlin, Copenhagen to Stockholm. Even in soggy Hamburg, where the weather is similar to ours, the bars and cafes spread out to turn the marketplace on summer weekends into a bustle of eateries and drinkeries, places at which people can enjoy life in a communal

forum. Largely because of the changeable weather, most of these establishments are portable but they are designed so that they appear semi-permanent. Moreover, they sell decent food and even alcoholic beverages. For another key factor is that continental countries have not fallen victim to the myth that a glass of wine or beer consumed in a public square is a threat to social order. Admittedly outdoor relaxation has its difficulties, particularly in London where a pall of car exhaust hangs over Holborn Circus and would-be *flâneurs* have to be careful not to get their toes

crushed by double-decker buses. But pedestrianisation would solve this as it does abroad. Closing three sides of Trafalgar Square to traffic might not turn it into an equivalent of Venice's Piazza San Marco, but the self-proclaimed piazza in Covent Garden is one of the few places where London in summer comes really alive. There are many more venues that could be improved in this way: whole streets of Soho could be closed to non-essential traffic, raising the quality of life in the centre of the capital without adding to the risk of gridlock. Nor should we confine our attentions to central

London: Manchester's Albert Square, before its imposing Victorian town hall, ought to be a public forum to rival the Rathausplatz in Munich, graced by an architectural flourish of similar period. And what of Greenwich, as a borough second only to Westminster in the number of foreign tourists? The concrete expanse around the Cutty Sark is wasted, too often littered with crisp bags dropped by French and Italian teenagers who would have been only too glad to enrich the local economy by quaffing Orangina beneath sunshades. Kensington Council is right: it is time we put a little more effort into our relaxation. The nation would be the better for it. Undoubtedly it all looks better when the sun is shining, but essentially summer is a state of mind.

Rise of the cigarette police

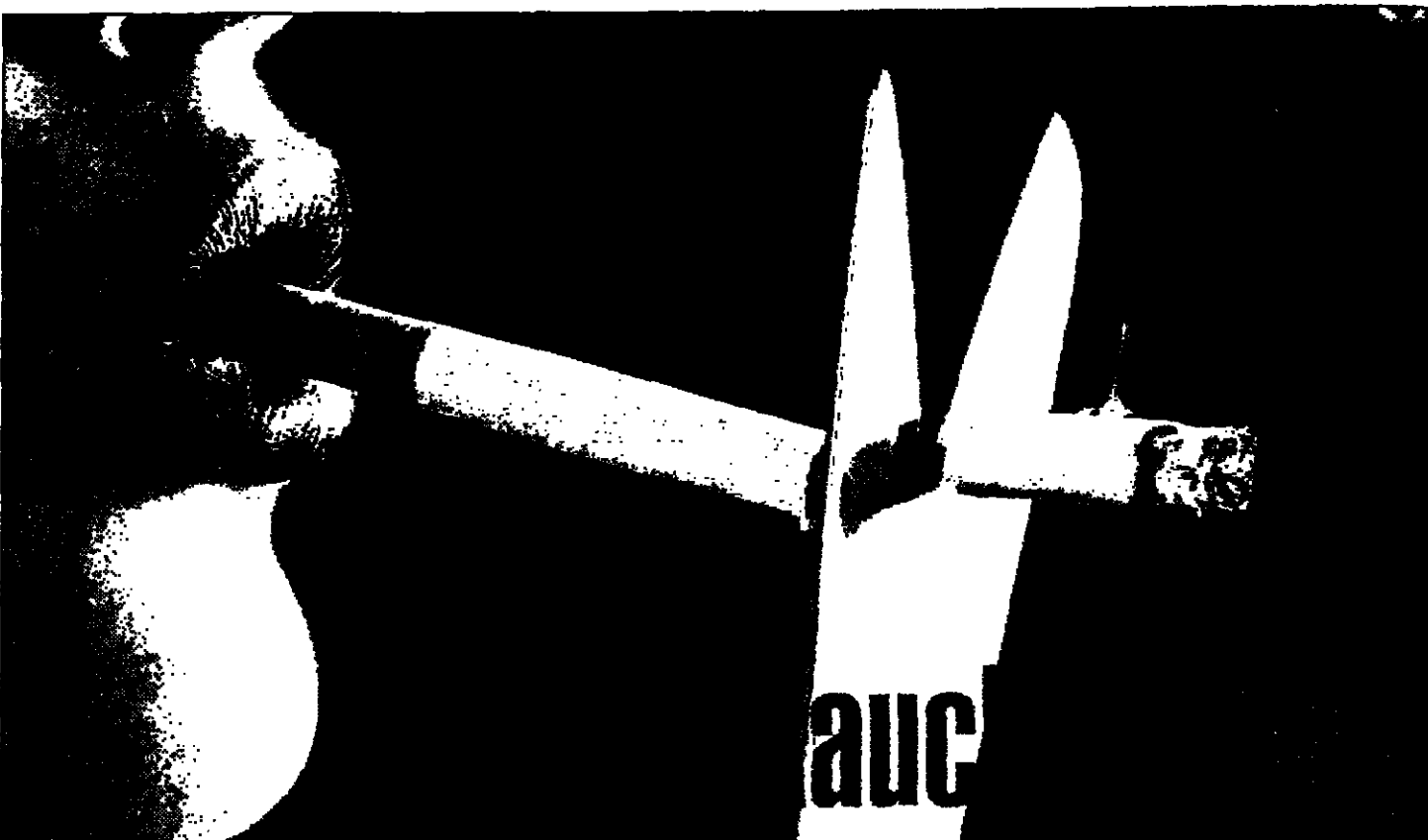
Bernard Levin questions the aims and claims of anti-tobacco activists

With a bow to St Jude, the patron of hopeless causes, I find myself again taking up cudgels — well, one cudgel — for the most savagely persecuted minority in the contemporary advanced world: the smokers. First, I must make the necessary disclaimer: I am not a smoker, and never have been, so I cannot be accused of being *parti pris*. Second, I am not such a fool as to discount the number of diseases and deaths in which tobacco clearly plays a part, though of course no reputable medical or legal source could say of a smoker who died that the cause of death was smoking, and only smoking, because no such certainty is possible; we can speak only of degrees of likelihood.

Never mind: smoking is a very dangerous practice, and undoubtedly kills many people as well as making many more ill. It is highly addictive too. All in all, I would like to see the end of it. But I must stand up to the fanatical, hysterical, inimical, tyrannical, dogmatic bullying, hectoring, traducing, sneering, threatening, lecturing, harassing and abusing which is what the smoker today has to contend with.

The latest flesh-creeper, a huge report of a huge study, is the most absurd so far. This anti-smoking assault has for evidence a number of sources, one of the most relied upon being the World Health Organisation. Unfortunately, that organisation's presence in the study provides only the proverbial 13th chime of the crazy clock, for its contribution is worthless.

I say this on good grounds. In 1986, the WHO put out a supposedly scientific "projection" (that word will occur again before I am finished) of the spread of Aids. Its confident assertion was that by 1990, four years after the prediction, there would be 100,000,000 people infected by the dreadful disease worldwide, and of these 100 million, one million would be in the United Kingdom. The fateful year came and went, and so did 1991. The million cases of Aids in Britain turned out to be approximately 5,500, and the worldwide 100 million became something between eight and ten



We have ways to make you stop: an image of the German 'war on smokers' from Stern magazine illustrates the new intolerance

million; half of one per cent of the smug conclusion for Britain, and less than ten per cent of the no-less smug forecast for the rest of the world.

Now we must turn to the more scientific evidence in the report. The trouble with that, however, is that it is not much more substantial than the WHO's wild guesses. First, it undermines itself by coolly offering (without argument or demonstration) the fundamental fallacy that if anyone smokes and subsequently dies, the causal connection is automatically proved. That should be enough to discredit any amount of statistics based on the unproven (and of course unprovable) dogmatic assertion: but the study goes on to extrapolate figures hardly more scientific than the WHO's imagination. Headless of the Aids débacle, a spokesman from the WHO claimed that "we have new data based on the 1980s that one in three smokers will die from tobacco and there are signs that the true figure may be as high as half".

But why stop there? That "projection", which is the Latin for "guesswork", would knock off some 250,000,000 puffers in the developed countries alone. It means that 20 per cent of a billion and a quarter people will die of

smoking, and it cannot be long before everybody who dies will do so from the fatal weed, apart from a small number run over by badly parked steam-rollers. (As for the fact that the number of people giving up smoking is steadily increasing, so that even the less absurd extrapolations must be handled with suspicion, it is ignored.)

Before I move on, let me recapitulate. I know that many deaths are caused by smoking, though not all directly. However the statistics add up (often they don't), tobacco is a dangerous poison, though different from other poisons to the extent that millions of smokers come to no harm from it. But there is another aspect.

Forest, the organisation set up to defend the right of lawful smoking (the acronym is Freedom Organisation for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco), has coined a useful phrase: verbal terrorism. That is what a growing number of smokers experience, and experience it not only from the prigs and fanatics; once, the quasi-governmental bodies were meant to coax smokers off the habit, but now those mentors are all too likely to join in the persecution.

There is a mystery in this story, which I cannot solve. There can be no smoker anywhere who does not know that he is in danger, which means that the anti-smoking fanatics cannot claim that the cigarette-sellers are concealing the truth of that danger. In addition, their distant Grail, the proof of the effect of "passive smoking", still eludes them, and on top of that, even the most glib gull now winks when the fanatics claim that the cost to the NHS of treating smokers is nine hundred and seventy million billion pounds an hour. So why — this is the mystery — are the fanatics so hysterical, so raging, so madly intolerant, so implacably determined to make smoking of any kind, anywhere, any time, a criminal offence?

There are clues, though I'm blown if I understand them; for instance, it is an almost entirely middle-class crusade, but what does that indicate? It is based on the belief that A is entitled to bully and badger B for B's own good, without any invitation from B, but again that needs elucidation. The all-round, stock anti-smokers would have been enthusiastic members of CND, are opposed to hunting, canvassed for Glenda Jackson in the election and certainly send their children to private schools. There is one more clue: although widespread drunkenness has been growing steadily, with very serious consequences, the smoke-worshippers show no interest in the problem. But yet again, what does that mean?

One thing, though, seems to me clear: the crusade is not for an end to smoking; it is to force something in the crusaders' own image of themselves. Cleanliness comes into it somewhere, and a little rather nervous disparagement of the poor: the smoke-worshippers would make admirable citizens of Borrioboola-Gha.

I will provide another clue, and then leave the puzzle to those who enjoy such puzzles. Professor Eysenck, no stranger to controversy, was studying the idea of guilt, at Heidelberg University. He devised an experiment. Over a long period, he followed two groups of smokers; one group was subjected to media propaganda against smoking; the other group was left alone. He found that the death-rate in the badgered group was three times that of the group which had been left alone.

No, that is not the clue. The clue is that, faced with the implications of the Eysenck experiment, the anti-smokers would still insist on their hectoring.



...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

Three days ago I stood in the Australian bush confronted by a remarkable sight: an entire railway train scattered across the dry scrub like a Horoby toy after the family albatross had run amok. It had been carrying iron ore. Fifty wagons — some still hitched, some alone, some overturned, some upright, some wrecked and twisted — were strewn almost playfully around, gum trees growing through their chassis. "It was a flood," said our guide, Heather, "after the rain." We looked up at the clear sky, and down at the parched earth, and doubted her. It was the end of our inland tour. Three days later we were to go snorkelling at the coast.

We did go snorkelling; but in the road. Of that, more in a moment. For when I woke today, sea snorkelling still looked possible. Road snorkelling was inconceivable.

It was not, it is true, a perfect snorkelling day. The rain had started at dawn, and I rose from a coma imposed by the consumption of two huge crabs, six scallops, ten king prawns, four mutant mega-mussels, a whole squid in rings, two big white fish and a cray fish the size of a cat. They cost so little in Australia: it seemed positively imprudent not to tuck them away against a leaner future. After this, ten hours sleep seemed about right, for on the morrow I was to go snorkelling, and you need all your energy for that.

It was 8pm as I finished the crayfish. The stars were bright

and you could see the Southern Cross. One more beer, one more crab — just a little one — and ZAP! I was out like a light. I must have been the squid. I hardly foresaw the day that awaited.

At dawn it felt like a light shower, a little of the meagre rainfall they get in Exmouth every year. Exmouth, on the tropic of Capricorn and the Indian Ocean, my guide book explained, is semi-desert. They get six inches of rain a year.

Nobody explained they get it all at once. By seven the rain had intensified. By eight it was coming down. I remarked, "in stair rods": the blank response of the hotel staff reminding me that Western Australians live in bungalows. "Prop us up on a dozen stumps and we're cosy," says Jack, a character in D.H. Lawrence's weird novel *Kangaroo*. Lawrence landed in Western Australia 70 years ago almost to the day.

"Just a little above the earth level, and no higher, you know. Australians in their heart of hearts hate anything but a bungalow. They feel it's rock bottom, don't you see? None of your stair-climbing Shans and upstairs impudence."

"Good honest fellows," said Kangaroo... "Until it comes to business," said Jack.

They were sentencing Alan Bond in Perth, on television, when the storm really broke in Exmouth. By ten, the rain had abandoned the formality of coming down in raindrops. It

was as though someone was tipping jugs out of the sky. Bungalows here have no gutters: the water pours off the edges of the corrugated iron roofs surrounding the houses in sheets. Every finger of every front of every palm becomes an elegant green spout, while mimosa drops its flowers in a wet green carpet around its feet, and the gum trees just drip.

Heavy rain comes for us in England in bursts, a 30-second crescendo followed, as assuredly, by a diminuendo: so the English ear hears the tropical rain intensely and waits with confidence for the abatement. When it does not come, when the symphony sticks, as it were, at climax, we reach around unconsciously for a tap to close: the instinct is to ransack the yellow pages for an emergency plumber. And when it continues all morning at maximum pitch, the internal sensation is of panic.

Australians are more relaxed. Ron, our snorkelling instructor, stood with us at the door of the Exmouth Diving Centre, situated, happily, on a mound. The road outside had disappeared. A red river swept by.

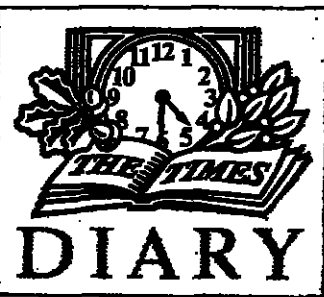
"I'll make a good photograph, at least," said Ron. He backed the trailer into the torrent and we launched the dinghy. We put on our wetsuits and snorkels and in we went. Visibility was poor, marine life scarce. I think I saw a dotted white line. I'm sorry I doubted Heather. I hope your sunny spell is over in Britain.

Competitive tendering

AS JOHN MAJOR today considers the politically charged question of whether to proceed with moving 2,000 civil servants to Canary Wharf, two of his ministers have become embroiled in a dispute over another office block. David Mellor and Michael Heseltine have both set their sights on taking over the former energy department building for their respective departments of fun and industry.

Their competition is not surprising. A red box's throw from St James's Park in Palace Street, the building is one of the most desirable in Whitehall. The main ministerial suite offers unrivalled views of Buckingham Palace. Heseltine, presumably operating on the principle that possession is nine parts of the law, had a plaque erected within 24 hours of the election declaring the building part of his department. With the DTI's new status as a "super ministry", its president is clearly keen to expand his empire, now housed in Victoria Street. The old energy offices can house 1,000 civil servants and have the added attraction of a palm-fringed atrium (where former energy minister Colin Moynihan wanted to hold his wedding reception).

Mellor has other ideas. The Treasury is evaluating three sites for his new ministry, and although the locations have not been disclosed Mellor is known to favour Palace Street. Mellor's senior establishment officer has inspected the building three times since the election. Its three suites of offices would provide space for Mellor, his deputy Robert Key and, it is said, William Waldegrave could take over the third of his expanding citizen's charter department.



Years of campaigning for animal rights have only heightened Brigitte Bardot's sensitivity to the needs of poor dumb creatures. Her latest project, however, is aimed at the aristocrats of the animal kingdom: the perfumed pets of St Tropez. Rather than spending their days dehydrating gracefully in Porsches while their owners enjoy shops, yachts and beaches, the beasts will soon be



able to relax in Bardot "waiting rooms" adjoining the main supermarket and the new port complex. Bardot, known to invite stray dogs to her villa, is expected to provide every comfort in these vestibules

and, it is rumoured, may even act as nursemaid on occasion. But the star has not forgotten the lower forms of life. She is still attempting to elevate the Parisian rat from the sewer, insisting it should no longer be listed as a pest.

Summit's missing

THE EARTH Summit in Rio de Janeiro starts today on an embarrassing note for its organisers. Delegates arguing for restrictions on felling of the world's forests will be sorry to discover that their information packs are not, as they might expect, made from recycled paper. The consignment of politically correct paper intended for the pamphlets has been detained on a cargo ship in the city's port.

The competing Global Forum conference, an initiative of independent environmentalists to provide an alternative voice to the official summit, also has no access to recycled paper, although organisers were able to print some eco-friendly material in advance.

Refusal of an import licence by the Brazilian port authorities is the cause of the delay to the shipment of recycled paper. "Things are like this here, the bureaucracy has stopped the paper from reaching us," said a conference organiser. Local paper companies, it seems, have been of little help. "They haven't got the adequate quality. What they have is so bad that it breaks our copying machine," says a Global Forum organiser.

Jumping Jagger

AFTER a string of early-season match cancellations caused by rain and riots, a touch of glamour was brought to Hollywood cricket at the weekend when Mick Jagger made his debut for the Lord Rufus

Isaacs XI against Beverly Hills. Taking time off from recording his new album, the venerable rock star arrived an hour late at the Hollywood Hills ground with his team already foundering five wickets down for less than 50 runs. Jagger quickly redeemed himself by smashing his second ball for a Botham-like six into the bushes underneath the famous Hollywood sign.

He was, alas, bowled for eight but was applauded vigorously by his wife, Jerry Hall, who says she is equally enthusiastic about the sport and plays regularly for an all-girl team at Richmond Park in London. "I just love cricket," she said. "In fact, I wanted to play myself today."

Jagger, who describes himself as a "kind of fast medium bowler", proved not quite as keen as his wife. He declined the invitation to bowl on grounds of injury, though he cast caution to the winds for some diving stops while fielding at cover. "I guess that means I won't be doing any dancing tonight," he said ruefully.

In the last public statement before her death Marlene Dietrich paid moving tribute to Maurice Chevalier, "the truest friend I ever had". Her words are to be used as a foreword to Maurice Chevalier's new biography by David Bret, who received a call from Dietrich just two days before her death. In large handwriting sprawled across four pages, Dietrich wrote: "His devotion to me was for ever." She said she flew to Paris when he was near death. "I was not allowed to see him. He had given orders to that effect. The reason was his fear that the sight of his death-ridden appearance would make it too sad for me to bear. That's the kind of man he was. He gave up his own last joy — for me."



A BARGAIN NOT A WHINGE

The "earth summit" which opens this week in Rio de Janeiro has the hallmarks of the UN spectacles of the 1970s, writ large. More than 12,000 delegates and even more lobbyists, an unmanageably huge agenda, aims more ambitious than any government present will accept, and rich North and poor South squared up for battle. Yet the Rio conference differs from those that gave the UN a bad name in the 1970s in three ways.

First, the North now really means the whole industrialised world, not just the West. With the collapse of communism, there will be no Soviet manipulation of Third World politicians to embarrass the West. East and West have a similar stake in making progress at, and after, Rio. Second, this conference has more serious business than "consciousness-raising" if countries are to start to bridge the gap between what we now know about the state of the Earth and what we are actually doing to protect it.

The third and most significant difference is that this will be the first time in the UN's history that the rich are demanding something from the South, not vice-versa: in other words this is a bargain not a whinge. The rich who consume four-fifths of the world's resources and account for most of its industrial emissions are asking the poor to invest in the conservation of natural resources, and to adopt more environmentally friendly policies than the rich world employed at comparable stages in its growth.

A vocal handful of Third World politicians has seized on the environment as a lever more potent than the oil weapon in the 1970s with which to pursue the age-old search for somebody else's cash. Led by Malaysia, they have denounced this concern as neo-imperialism, a conspiracy by the rich to halt Third World growth. The rich, they say, must prove their good faith by accepting that poverty is the cause of pollution, and thus pay for greener Third World growth.

How should the West respond? The answer is to reject demands for money accompanied by no undertakings about how money will be spent. There must be no more untied aid to those who have no intention of directing the money to the desired end. Those days must be over.

There are three parallel negotiations at Rio. The worst is "Agenda 21", a 750-page document of unsurpassed UN verbosity,

intended to be the world's work programme for sustainable development, complete with targets, timetables and more cash paid to Third World regimes. There can be no agreement on this absurd project. Its authors want a lavish new international agency as consolation prize. They must not get it.

More important are the two framework conventions, on climate change and protecting the world's biological diversity. These are ready for signing at Rio. Here the rich are deeply divided. Already the treaties shy away from targets and financial obligations. Even so the White House announced on Friday that it would not sign the bio-diversity treaty for lack of checks on how the money would be used. Britain is still dithering over whether to sign. There are real arguments to be resolved over whether imposing additional costs on energy industries at a time of recession is sensible, and over monitoring.

Yet imperfect as the two treaties are, it is important that they are signed. They are markers on the way to more careful, and more equally shared, custodianship of the planet. Even weakened conventions can lead to stronger ones. North and South have here the basis of real bargains. The US refused to accept a firm target to reduce its CO₂ emissions to 1990 levels but has agreed that this would be "appropriate". It is right to help poorer countries towards energy efficiency.

Agreement must still be reached on the tight monitoring of such aid, but the treaties are a useful start. The way would be open under the bio-diversity convention to reward poor countries for preserving the natural gene pool, including the possible payment of royalties on commercially useful development of genetic resources. The principle for both conventions must be that they are not a back door for yet more aid but a payment for better world conservation.

Four decades of East-West confrontation are over. Rio will be a test of a similar new dawn in North-South relations. The two conventions are the challenge to those who wish to draw good sense out of cynical rhetoric. For rich and poor, this is a summit about economic growth, for this and for succeeding generations. This theme has triumphed over the limits to growth school of the 1980s. If Rio moves in this sensible direction, it should not be counted a failure.

NO SWEETENERS FOR THE CANARY

The government is wavering in its resolve to allow market forces to settle the fate of Canary Wharf. Lord Hanson, for many years the Conservative party's favourite industrialist, is said to be saddling his white charger. But if the government wants him to ride to the rescue, the principal condition will doubtless be the same as that demanded by other white knights: that taxpayers bear most of the risks and costs. Any Canary Wharf rescue is likely to pivot on two conditions. The government will have to relocate 2,000 civil servants to Canary Wharf at above "market clearing" rents (now zero in that location) and it will have to build the £2-billion extension to the Jubilee line.

The political unseemliness of one of the government's favourite financiers bailing out another at the expense of the taxpayer needs no elaboration. An absolute precondition for any Canary Wharf rescue must be complete financial transparency. Only if the government could prove that its involvement with Canary Wharf was purely commercial with no trace of the subsidies and special treatment offered by Mrs Thatcher should John Major contemplate any rescue. Unfortunately for Canary Wharf, but fortunately for the rest of London, this condition is impossible to satisfy.

London needs transport investment. The Underground already has three enormously costly projects — the two cross-rail schemes and the modernisation of the present Tube system — to proceed as rapidly as possible. All are languishing for want of funds and were demoted because of the priority the government gave to Canary Wharf. The two cross-rail schemes would reduce congestion in Central London both on the roads and in the rest of the Tube network. They have been postponed to the next century. The slow

progress on resignalling and replacing the rolling stock on the Tube system is shocking. If every one of the existing Tube lines carried trains every two minutes, a frequency even the Russians achieve on the Moscow metro, London's environment would be transformed.

The £1.6 billion allocated by the Treasury to the Jubilee line would be enough to increase by 60 per cent the non-Jubilee investment planned by London Underground in the next three years. But London's additional transport requirements are not confined to the Underground. The British Rail network is even more in need of investment. The bus system needs new vehicles. Even the East End would benefit more quickly from upgrading the existing bus and rail network than by building the Jubilee extension.

Canary Wharf's insolvency offers the government an opportunity to reconsider the priorities Mrs Thatcher imposed on the Treasury and Department of Transport. Far from being more generous to Canary Wharf's new owners, the government should tighten the conditions on its funding of the Jubilee line. Ideally it should raise substantially the contribution Canary Wharf would have to pay, since in real terms this is worth nearer £100 million rather than the widely quoted £400 million. More to the point, resources for this line should revert to a sensible priority well down the list of London schemes.

If Mr Major is genuine in his desire to run a government not for the benefit of a circle of favourites, if he wants to enforce market disciplines, and if he wants to improve London's transport system, he should stop prevaricating, and roundly reject any government intervention to help Canary Wharf.

THE FRENCH AFFAIR

Marie France and John Bull are the oldest pair of squabbling lovers in the world. Their love-hate relationship goes back beyond history to where archaeology suggests that the original settlers of Britain (not surprisingly) came from France. Over the 20 centuries since mankind managed to cross la Manche, French and English have fought each other at home and abroad, envied each other's success and taken malicious satisfaction in each other's misfortunes. They are like an old married couple. This jingoism or chauvinism can still erupt over imagined slights. Such epithets as "frog" and "rosbif" are hurled. Old ethnic insults die hard.

Yet France and England are natural lovers as well as neighbours. Market research indicates the remarkable statistic that more than half the readers of this paper will be visiting France over the next three months, more than all their other overseas destinations put together. Today *The Times* starts a systematic daily coverage of France to continue throughout the holidays to examine and explain this mutual fascination.

This paper was born partly from an intense public interest in the dramatic and alarming events of the revolution across the Channel. Two centuries on, the Anglo-French affair is less turbulent, though there is still room for mistrust and misunderstanding over European politics. Yet France is the only country near enough for a British citizen to swim to, at a pinch. And there are many quicker and less arduous ways. A weekend in

France has become a commonplace for the well-off southerner, and will be more so with the coming of the Channel tunnel.

The time has come to assert the community rather than the diversity of France and England. Half the vocabulary of English comes through French, and the French are increasingly worried by the seepage of English into their precise language. The Celtic fringe culture of Great Britain overlaps with that of the significantly named region of Brittany. The French connection is evident from the Norman cathedrals and castles of both countries down to the cults of the latest French films and frocks and fads and cuisine.

The British love France because it is the nearest piece of abroad, and feels and smells distinctly foreign. The biggest country in Europe offers a vast range of dramatic landscape. For the most part, its rolling miles have managed to avoid the sprawl of suburbs and motorways that have homogenised much of postwar Britain. French houses are cheap, and French wine and food are still the best in the world. The French are insatiably curious, talkative and interested in life (perhaps because their television is so terrible). Although they manage to conceal it for most of the time, the British and the French are dear friends as well as near neighbours. So vive la difference between the French and the English, as interesting and rewarding, almost, as the older difference between the sexes.

Verdict on Dr Carey's visit to Rome

From the Chaplain of Keble College, Oxford

Sir, For Anglicans with an awareness of the historic apologetic of their church there is some irony in the differing stances of the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury at their recent meeting on the matter of the ordination of women to the priesthood (report, May 26).

From Bishop Jewel's *Apologia Ecclesiae Anglicanae* (1562) onwards, Anglicans have objected that Rome has added to the faith doctrines and practices which have neither a clear scriptural basis nor the authority of the tradition of the early centuries of the Church, in the light of which they affirmed Scripture should be read.

When the Anglican-Roman Catholic official dialogue began, under the aegis of Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Michael Ramsey, it was affirmed that this should be conducted on the basis of Scripture and the "ancient common traditions". Indeed, the recent Vatican response to the work of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission has been criticised by Anglicans for judging by other criteria.

Yet Anglicans have claimed at one and the same time that their ministry is the historic ministry shared with Orthodox and Roman Catholics, and have yet thought it right to proceed unilaterally to ordain women to the priesthood and episcopate.

The Pope, in reminding Anglicans that he believes himself bound to keep faith with Scripture and the tradition of the Church, is doing no more than remind Anglicans of the historic basis of their own faith. The nub of the question is one of authority, just as it was in the 2nd century.

The English Reformers (in common with many of the continental Reformers) claimed to be restorers, not innovators, on the basis of a faith given and revealed in a normative way. It is ironic that the papacy, accused in the past of innovation, should now be asking Anglicans by what authority they are making innovations.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY ROWELL,
Chaplain,
Keble College, Oxford.

From Father Peter Hebblethwaite

Sir, Clifford Longley's attempt to give positive "spin" to the Archbishop of Canterbury's recent visit to Rome ("Dr Carey was respected in Rome, despite his gaffe", May 30) does credit more to his heart than to his judgment.

His optimism depends on omitting any mention of the ordination of women, the blunt rejection of Anglican/Roman Catholic agreements (welcomed by the Church in this country) and Dr Carey's cosy relationship with the Russian Orthodox Patriarch. Moreover, to claim that Dr Carey "has studied in Rome" gives

exaggerated importance to a week spent at the Anglican Centre in 1977.

The painful truth is that Pope John Paul II mind does not dwell overmuch on the Church of England. The Requiem Mass for Giovanni Falcone, his wife and three bodyguards was celebrated in Sicily while Dr Carey was talking to the Pope. And on Thursday Pope John Paul is off to Angola for his second journey to Africa this year. One saw on television his body language as this strange Englishman explained at tortuous length why he had presented the gift of a chalice. The Pope nodded sagely.

Yet the visit was positive, provided one sees it as the Church of England visiting the Church in Italy. They both have to deal with "sociological Christians" for whom baptism is part of the folk tradition.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HEBBLETHWAITE,
45 Marston Street, Oxford.
May 30.

From Father Philip Gray

Sir, Many of us were amazed to read in your editorial, "Canterbury visits Rome" (May 25), that the Church of England was "content to be, for now, allied, equal, but still separate" from the Roman Catholic Church.

How can a world-wide communion like Anglicanism (numbering 2 per cent of Christendom), assume equality with a church which claims over 80 per cent of all Christians? Perhaps that is our real problem: we do not seem to have the humility to recognise that our church is so small, and, as the Pope has just clearly restated, has no more competence than he has to decide on whether or not the apostolic priesthood remains male.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP GRAY
(Priest Director),
The Catholic League,
7 Tufton Street, SW1.

From the Editorial Director of the Catholic Herald

Sir, You report (May 26) the Pope and Archbishop of Canterbury to be "at odds" over women priests. Nevertheless, the stock argument that women cannot be ordained because Jesus called only men as his first disciples, means, if taken seriously, that only Jews are eligible for Christian ordination. For Jesus rejected Gentiles as followers as emphatically as he welcomed women.

It was left to Paul, after the Lord had been raised, to defy the "Pope" of the day, Peter, by insisting that Gentiles too should be admitted unconditionally into the fold. Let us hope that this latest confrontation with a subsequent Pope by another leading Christian will have equally happy results with regard to women priests.

Yours faithfully,
GERARD NOEL,
Editorial Director, *Catholic Herald*,
Herald House,
Lamb's Passage, Bunhill Row, EC1.

Exposing Maxwell

From Mr Michael Walters

Sir, I admire Tom Bower, his book and his determination in the face of Maxwell's lawyers. But he should not accuse newspaper proprietors of obstructing journalists pursuing Maxwell ("Maxwell: the real culprit exposed", *Life & Times*, May 26).

A few years ago, I was called to meet the late Mick Shields, managing director of Associated Newspapers, on a minor matter. Greeting me, he said with amusement, "You're the fellow who causes us so much trouble".

He explained that every time I attacked Maxwell on the *Daily Mail* City page, he and Lord Rothmere were subjected to a barrage of phone calls from Maxwell, calling for my head, demanding apologies. No word of this had ever reached me. I carried on attacking, and the *Daily Mail* management stayed silent.

Not once did the *Daily Mail* receive the written threat of legal action from Maxwell over anything I wrote. From the damning Department of Trade verdict to the fine print in circulars to shareholders,

there was always ample documented material to raise critical comments — if you did your homework.

Did anyone — even Mr Bower — really know the full horror of the pension deals? I doubt it. I suspect that many who now claim so much knowledge of Maxwell's doings never really knew, or relied more on gossip than hard proof. Why else remain silent? Nuisance though it may be, all journalists must respect the need for proof.

The lack of effective, properly enforced rules of disclosure was more of a problem than libel when tackling Maxwell. Had the Stock Exchange made sure the full details of Maxwell's share and option deals were adequately disclosed, perhaps the extent of his problems would have become clear before he could do the damage he did. And what of those brokers who admitted breaking the Companies Act by forgetting deals on time? Are they to be forgotten?

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WALTERS
(Deputy City Editor, *Daily Mail*),
Laddingford Croft,
Nr Yalding, Kent.

Dresden reconciliation

From Mrs B. A. Heathcote

Sir, Some people feel that honouring the author of the bombing of German cities with a statue is at the best tactless, at the worst insulting, towards cities which suffered as Dresden did. Supporters of the statue to "Bomber" Harris say that it is also for the young men who were sent on the raids in the belief that they were beating evil and did not return. Both views are valid.

Dresden has decided that the famous Frauenkirche will be rebuilt. Some feel it should be left as the heap of ruins it collapsed into the day after the raid, to remind us of the horrors of war. Others think that it should be rebuilt as a symbol that good can come out of evil. Both views are valid.

Could not those who feel that, however sincere Harris and his young men were, Dresden was a horror which should never have happened, start a British fund to contribute to the rebuilding?

Yours faithfully,
BELINDA HEATHCOTE,
55 Haling Park Road,
South Croydon, Surrey.
May 28.

From Mr M. A. Bicknell

Sir, The statue is not about the glory of war, or the devastation of cities, or the killing of civilians, or any of the other brutalities it has now become

fashionable to equate with the prosecution of what we knew then, and know now, to have been a just and necessary war.

The statue is about sustained courage, determination and steadfastness even unto death, against the most murderous and bloody regime yet seen on the face of earth. And if it serves as a reminder to us, and to those who so avidly supported that regime, that such things must never again be allowed to happen, then it will serve a double purpose.

But first it is about 5,500 men and their indomitable commander, who "dared the unpastured dragon in his den". Let us now praise famous men.

Yours truly,
M. A. BICKNELL,
29 Longmeadow,
Broadclyst, Exeter, Devon.
May 29.

From Mr Erick Kettner

Sir, There's was a message of hope. Hope that one day we would regain freedom in Holland. That warm, roaring sound of the Lancasters, high up in the sky, made our hearts beat faster and we held our breath once one was caught by the German searchlights. And many prayed for a successful mission and a safe return.

I never forget the bombing of Rotterdam on May 14, 1940. Fires over a wide front gradually merging into one uninterrupted blaze against a darkening sky. Frightening but

Pitfalls in plans for leasehold reform

From Mr I. H. McCulloch

Sir, Normally it is constitutionally acceptable for government policy to be enacted by Parliament as public policy without the government having to be put to any proof of the need for the change. In the UK government legislation is a legitimate implementation of political will.

Where, however, proposed legislation offends constitutional principles (by being retrospective or by violating human rights) it should stand up to some form of objective scrutiny, and it should not go beyond what is necessary.

In forcing some owners to sell their property the government's proposals for leasehold reform (report, May 7) are, prima facie, constitutionally objectionable because they will disturb pre-existing contractual rights which have been freely entered into.

The compulsory purchase of privately owned land should only be permitted if it is by a body which is publicly accountable, if it is required for a public purpose, and if the landowner is given a right to object. The government's proposals are different and worse because the forced sale will not in each case be for a specific public purpose which can be evaluated, it will not be to a public body, and the landowner has no right to object. The payment of compensation does not render acceptable what is unacceptable in principle.

The purposes of the government's proposals are to extend home ownership, to strengthen the position of tenants against neglectful landlords, to involve tenants more closely in the management of their buildings, and to ensure more marketability and greater security for tenants.

These are legitimate aims; but since the means by which the government has chosen to achieve them are, prima facie, objectionable, it is proper to ask whether the legislation will achieve the objectives. Do the measures only go so far as necessary — i.e., are they "proportionate", in terms of modern jurisprudence? Are there better ways of achieving the objectives?

For the aggrieved owner the position is made worse by the fact that in the run-up to the general election this form of compulsion was advocated by all three main political parties. Our system affords the citizen no opportunity to challenge the validity of legislation on constitutional grounds.

The government's proposals will cause further support for the view that in a highly developed society this is a defect which should be rectified and

that a Bill of Rights is needed which will enable the citizen to challenge the constitutional validity of certain legislative acts before the courts.

Yours faithfully,
IAN McCULLOCH,
Dyson Bell Martin
(Parliamentary Agents
and Solicitors),
1 Dean Farrar Street, SW1.

From the Chief Executive of Grosvenor Estate Holdings

Sir, It seems that commonhold (a form of unlimited tenure combined with a common management system for blocks of flats) is not to be part of the government's proposals on leasehold reform, although much wider leasehold enfranchisement rights are to be included.

The whole debate about commonhold and leasehold enfranchisement (giving long-leaseholders the right to buy their freeholds) emerged from the appalling behaviour and performance of some landlords. Leaseholders of such landlords require urgent assistance, which they will not get from the lengthy processes involved in acquiring their landlords' interests.

It is not too late for the government to include in the proposals provisions to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act 1987 with the aim of providing leaseholders with more knowledge of their rights, making enforcement of such rights easier and cheaper and, perhaps most effectively, giving leaseholders the ability to take over the management of their properties with the minimum of delay.

As to the enfranchisement provisions in the proposed bill, our main concern will be to ensure that there are adequate means to preserve and enhance the historic estates in central London. The continuity of freehold ownership of large parts of our capital city has ensured that areas such as Mayfair and Belgravia have broadly remained as distinctive as when they were first created.

The leasehold system, with its particular advantage of the use of positive covenants, has enabled us to practice what we call "estate management" — and thus to shape the total environment. Residents, too, excited by the prospect of enfranchisement, are concerned to maintain the high standards upon which the long-term value of their properties will depend. There must be both the means and incentive for estate management to be continued.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY NEWSUM,
Chief Executive,
Grosvenor Estate Holdings,
53 Davies Street, W1.

Owen trial verdict

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen

Sir, The chairman of the Bar Council is reported (later editions, May 23) to have said, with regard to the Stephen Owen trial, that the jury "felt they wished to be merciful. After all, these are the courts of justice and the jury thought the just verdicts in all the circumstances were the ones they brought in".

It is not, however, the function of a jury to bring in "a just verdict", but "a true verdict according to the evidence", and a verdict which is not true can only impair respect for trial by jury.

It is for the judge to temper justice with mercy in appropriate cases and he can be encouraged to do so if in such cases juries are directed that they can add a recommendation, should they so wish, if they find the defendant guilty as charged.

I am etc.,
G. ELLENBOGEN,
9 Montagu Square, W1.

From Mr Peter Booker

Sir, Janet Daley has discussed only half the story. Stephen Owen's acquittal was the second of two wrongs in my view. The first was the ludicrously short sentence accorded to Kevin Taylor.

The real task for a new justice ministry (John Glegg, May 26) is to ensure that the administration of justice at every level is perceived to be

fair. When that day arrives Stephen Owen will not be driven to desperate measures in a moment of near insanity. And juries will rely on legal technicalities and not emotions.

Yours truly,
PETER BOOKER,
2 Cawood Road,
Wistow, North Yorkshire.

From Mr J. B. Snell

Sir, Janet Daley ("Blinded by emotion", May 26) has missed one fundamental point. The English legal system will not totter on its foundations because of the "humanitarian" instincts of a Kentish jury.

The general principle of English criminal justice is that it is not simply the commission of a deed that forms a crime: it is the carrying out of a criminal deed with the intention to commit a crime, or in other words the necessary *mens rea*. A jury is the judge of fact, not of law, but the existence of *mens rea* is a fact, and even if the accused pleads guilty to the deed he may not have committed a crime if his intention was different.

The Maidstone jury was perfectly entitled to decide that the accused did not intend to commit any crime when he shot the man who killed his son. There is indeed a distinction between law and justice, and justice was well satisfied here.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. SNELL,
15 Tudor Avenue,
Dymchurch, Kent.

Fonetic spelling

From Dr K. F. Mole

Sir, Mr John Polling (letter, May 28) proposes the help of a committee to tidy up the English language — surely an indefensible idea, if not a major error leading towards total "fonetism" (yes — these really are his suggested spellings. Incredible).

Language is far too important to be deprived of its natural evolution. As for practicality, has not the Académie Française, after 300 years of trying to codify the French language, barely passed the first two letters of the alphabet to reach C?

Yours etymologically,
KENNETH MOLE,
The School, Buckhorn Weston,
Gillingham, Dorset.

What's in a name?

From Mrs Anne Bryant

Sir, Many couples of my acquaintance who live happily together, unmarried, describe themselves as having a "stable relationship" (letters, May 22, 26, 29). Stablemates?

Yours sincerely,
ANNE BRYANT,
Hill House, Hardwick Road,
Whitchurch-on-Thames, Berkshire.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

FRANCIS BACON

Dr Francis "Tom" Bacon, OBE, FRS, fuel cell pioneer, died on May 24 aged 87. He was born on December 21, 1904.

TOM Bacon was the father of the modern fuel cell, the technology that provided the in-flight power for the Apollo space vehicles. As a by-product, his fuel cells also produced heat and pure drinking water; indeed, in the words of astronaut Neil Armstrong: "Without Tom Bacon's work on fuel cells, man's journey to the moon would not have been possible."

Today, more than 50 years after Bacon began work, fuel cells are poised to become an important supplier of electrical power on earth as well as in space. By converting fuel and air directly into electricity, fuel cells offer the prospect of high efficiency and very low environmental impact, with the elimination of the nitrogen oxides produced by internal combustion or gas turbine engines. Japan has plans to introduce more than 2,000 megawatts of fuel cell capacity by the year 2000, and already has an 11 megawatt fuel cell plant operating for the Tokyo Electric Power Company.

Tom Bacon identified the huge possibilities of the fuel cell when working as a young engineer at C. A. Parsons in Newcastle upon Tyne. "In the 1930s I saw the fuel cell as the perfect power source for a vehicle: clean, silent, compact and highly efficient," he said when interviewed in the 1980s. "I started some covert experiments at Parsons and soon discovered the problems. Those problems included creating the conditions in which the fuel could react and produce a useful output. In a system compact enough to be practical."



The fuel for a fuel cell can be derived from natural gas, coal, wood or waste products. Instead of being burnt, it is converted to hydrogen which is then oxidised over a catalyst to water, yielding electricity and heat. In this way the fuel cell provides an efficient, quiet, safe, non-polluting method of producing electric power. The principle was discovered by the Victorian scientist Sir William Grove in 1842, and he wrote to Michael Faraday about his "gas battery" which produced elec-

tricity when hydrogen and oxygen were bubbled over platinum catalysts. The invention remained no more than a curiosity for almost a century.

Bacon was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge. On graduating he went as an apprentice to C. A. Parsons, and in the late 1930s was responsible for the production of searchlight reflectors. By the early 1940s he was at King's College London, working on fuel cells with Admiralty support, with the object of producing the perfect motive power for submarines. He went to the Anti-submarine Experimental Establishment in Ayrshire for some five years, before returning to work on fuel cells again at Cambridge from 1946 to 1956.

For the next six years, Bacon was a consultant to the National Research Development Corporation, with whose support he was able to construct a fully automated five kilowatt alkaline fuel cell. During the late 1960s he was the principal consultant to Energy Conservation Ltd, the first British effort to manufacture fuel cells. This operation was transferred to the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority in 1971, but Bacon retired in 1973 and the underfunded project foundered; nevertheless, some working cells were built and at least one is still in existence. In more recent years, he was associated with Johnson Matthey in its development work on commercial fuel cell catalysts.

Today, in spite of his pioneering work, it is the Japanese, Americans and Germans who are pushing ahead fastest in the development of fuel cells. The British government declined to provide support for developing phosphoric acid fuel cells in 1982 on the grounds that they were

not economic as electricity generators. While this remains true, many engineers believe that the costs will come down as production expands and that the device has an excellent future in a world increasingly concerned about pollution. The emissions from fuel cells are so low that it is possible to locate them in urban or suburban areas and use them to produce both electricity and heat.

The many honours conferred on Bacon included appointment to OBE and his election to a fellowship of the Royal Society. He was a doctor of science, silver medalist of the Royal Aeronautical Society, Churchill gold medalist of the Society of Engineers, Melchett medalist of the Institute of Fuels, Bruno Breyer medalist of the Royal Australian Chemical Society, and Vittorio de Nora Diamond Shamrock medalist of the Electrochemical Society. He was also a member of the Royal Institution, a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and held a fellowship of engineering.

In 1991, 50 years after constructing his first fuel cell, he was awarded the first Grove medal commemorating the work of Sir William Grove. Appropriately, the medal is exactly five troy ounces of platinum, which corresponds to the catalyst content of a modern 25 kilowatt low-temperature fuel cell. The medal has a portrait of Sir William Grove on the obverse and Grove's gaseous voltaic battery of 1842 on the reverse.

Of Bacon the man it can be said that, in contrast to his imposing intellectual stature, his incisive mind and analytical approach to any matter under discussion, he was modest, gently unassuming and deeply considerate to those around him. He leaves a widow, Barbara, and a son and daughter.

APPRECIATIONS

Elizabeth David

I READ your obituary of Elizabeth David (obituary, May 23) with interest having met her some years before she became a cookery writer. When she received her honorary degree at Essex University she told her audience that it was I who had nagged, caajoled, "indeed bullied" her into becoming a writer. This generous tribute somewhat overestimated the facts. I was simply instrumental in persuading my editor, Anne Scott-James, to publish her first pieces in what was then *Harper's Bazaar*.

Besides being an artist struggling to find a medium to express her gifts, she had already attempted painting and acting. Elizabeth was a conversationalist with the compelling powers of the Ancient Mariner, and talk begun over her kitchen table in Chelsea at lunch time might well be prolonged into dinner. Given a more strictly academic education she might have entertained the high table at some Oxford college and written books on recondite subjects for scholars. Happily for most of her life the artist and essayist prevailed over the scholar. In this mood she wrote, as one of her editors commented, "like an angel".

Veronica Nicholson
I WAS interested to read in her obituary of Elizabeth David's later reclusiveness. It ex-



plains much of my meeting with her.

In July 1990 she and I were awarded honorary degrees by the University of Bristol and were entertained to dinner by the university. She was very gaunt and crippled with arthritis and didn't seem to be enjoying the occasion much, leaving as soon as she could.

She seemed very sad at her restricted life, almost as if she had given up. However, she took a lively interest in how I managed my day-to-day living because I am disabled and confined to a wheelchair. It seemed important to her to talk to someone who could appreciate how difficult her life had become.

Mary-Elizabeth Raw

Prof Irving J. Selikoff

IT WAS with deep regret that I read of the death of Professor Irving J. Selikoff (obituary, May 27) who pioneered environmental medicine and led the world in the study of health problems from exposure to asbestos in the past, and indeed was responsible for the eventual deluge of compensation claims worldwide from the victims of asbestos related diseases (ARDS) or deaths.

As organiser/secretary of the Hull Asbestos Action Group I corresponded with Professor Selikoff in the late 1970s seeking information on the health problems, and the effect of examinations by

CT Scan in the diagnosis of ARDs and I was fortunate enough to receive literature in the form of booklets in answer to my request for information and which helped me in my own research on the subject. This led to the setting up of the present day Hull group which disseminates information to the British public and advises victims of ARDs on where to go, who to see and what to do after diagnosis, and I owe a debt of gratitude to the professor (and many others) who have helped in the past.

He will be sadly missed, but his work will live on and prove to be a boon to future medical personnel who might take up the issue of the problems arising from the use of asbestos.

R. Jackson

Dr John Henderson

DOCTOR John Henderson (obituary, May 25) had indeed a splendid matter-of-fact approach to his exalted position as personal physician to two prime ministers. I remember him telling me that he arrived at No 10 one evening to visit Lady Douglas-Home only to find a distraught prime minister about to be late for a City dinner because he was unable to get his press studs to stay in the front of his stiff shirt.

John whisked a roll of sticking plaster out of his bag, stuck it down the inside of the shirt front to keep the studs

in, and all was saved. On a later occasion he was worried that the prime minister (by then Margaret Thatcher) did not, indeed, agree that an annual check-up was necessary. "Well, what did you do?" I asked him. "Rang up Denis," he said firmly. She duly arrived.

I was one of his many devoted patients who experienced his immense kindness, when my husband died suddenly one weekend on his way back from the United States. John, who was off duty at his country home, dropped everything to rush to my side. Like many of his patients, I shall always remember him with immense gratitude.

Marie-Louise de Zulueta

June 1 ON THIS DAY 1932

The naval team included one admiral of the fleet and seven full admirals, giving them an advantage in seniority over their opponents who mustered only three full generals. The match consisted of 20 a side.

GOLF ADMIRALS v. GENERALS

FROM OUR GOLF CORRESPONDENT

Once again the Admirals and the Generals met in deadly grapple yesterday at Camberley Heath. As last year, the Prince of Wales was soldier and sailor too, an Admiral in one round and a General in the other; but he reversed last year's procedure. Having then been a rather unsuccessful Admiral in the morning, he was this time a General before lunch. The Prince showed, however, a complete impartiality for he won both his matches handsomely.

The Admirals won with some ease, and thus became one up in the record of matches. The Generals had several excuses to advance. First, they said, their best player, General Fawcett, had been despatched to play in the R.A.M.C. Meeting. Secondly, one of their number, who lost his Foursome by 8 and 7, had been practising with a Norwegian scythe, an exercise inimical to golf. Thirdly, and most important, they were too old. A census showed that the average age of the Generals was 62.9, that of the Admirals 59.6. It should be added that the Prince of Wales, being reckoned for this purpose only as a General, considerably brought down the Generals' average, while Lord Jellicoe, though he did not actually play, increased that of the Admirals. Youth will tell on a hilly course, and the only remedy that one can suggest is that the Generals should not be proud, but should co-opt a few

lusty young Brigadiers to lighten the lump.

The match was played with a proper ferocity. It was pleasant on one green to see an Admiral and a General, each having played the same number of strokes, with his ball some 18in from the hole. The Navy looked at the Army and the Army looked at the Navy, both wondering if they were "Halved"? So they both pined solemnly and both missed. This time each ball lay 3in away, and in a stance that could be felt each was holed out.

The feature of the Singles was the play of General Sir Robert Whigham, who massacred Admiral Powlett to the tune of six and five. Not even the fact that he was teed off on a golf club at Farnworth could justify his three times holing out from far beyond the confines of the green. Generals Howard and Kirke also did nobly, but it was a little hard on Sir Colin Mackenzie to have to encounter simultaneously two young Admirals. He felt lonely and succumbed to both. The Prince of Wales raised the spirits of the Generals by beating his Admiral by four and two, through a spell of good holes in the middle of the round, but the Navy led by three at luncheon.

In the afternoon the first soldier pair, General Whigham and General Howard, were three up at the eighth and then lost by three and one, so that Admiral Powlett had some revenge. After that there was something very like a panic in the military ranks. The Prince of Wales with Rear-Admiral Basil Brooke dealt cruelly with Generals Furze and Pitt-Taylor, who struggled with well disciplined valour.

Sir Colin Mackenzie had some recompense for his morning's ordeal by winning a capital match at the last hole, but nothing could stem the tide. Every loser declared that he had three delightful people to play with, that the course was in admirable order, and that he did not care. What better conclusion could there be?

KARL CARSTENS

Karl Carstens, president of the Federal Republic of Germany from 1979 to 1984, died on May 30 aged 77. He was born in Bremen on December 14, 1914.

KARL Carstens was a quiet and formal man who never lost the traces of his strict Lutheran upbringing and the dryness in social dealings for which north Germans are noted. He loved the German countryside and was fascinated by the regional characteristics of its people.

Together with his doctor wife he walked in stages the length of West Germany from the Baltic to Bavaria, a journey of 1,000 miles which he used to exchange views with his countrymen. He encouraged Germans to return to the tradition of long walks and coined the motto: "Less Mercedes, more per pedes." The journey gained him the popularity which had previously escaped him and even his opponents admitted that he was the president most in touch with the sensibilities of the West German people.

Carstens studied law in Germany and France and entered the Nazi party in 1937 for what he later described as financial reasons after he had been denied a study grant because of his non-membership. The military call-up saved him from active participation in the party.

After the war he completed his studies in Yale and returned to Bremen to practise as a lawyer. After initial involvement with the Social Democrats, he transferred his allegiance to Konrad Adenauer's Christian Democrats in 1955 and entered the foreign office as a state secretary. He was equally devoted to his political and academic careers and earned the admiration of his colleagues by gaining the professorship of state law and ethnology at Cologne University. In the grand coalition of 1966 he moved to the ministry of defence and in 1968 became head of Chancellor Kiesinger's office.

He left politics in 1969 when the Social Democrat-led coalition of Willy Brandt took power but was persuaded to stand for the Bundestag two years later and was soon appointed head of the Christian Democrat/Christian So-

cialist faction where he led the right-wing in opposing Brandt's Basic Treaty on recognition of East Germany.

In 1979 he was proposed for the post of president, a move which incurred the wrath of the opposition, which maintained that his membership of the Nazi party had made him unfit to be head of state. Brandt called him a "right-winger, incapable of integration" and Chancellor Schmidt also opposed his candidature but he remained steadfast and was appointed to the post.

He was a fluent English speaker and great admirer of British parliamentary tradition and the even-handedness which he found lacking in his own country's political culture. He named the boat on which he and his family spent much of their spare time "Fair Play". By the time his period of office ended he had gained the respect of even his most virulent critics. In retirement he devoted himself to literature and edited an anthology of German poetry.

While other politicians indulged in euphoria at German unification, Carstens was quick to foresee the problems which still divide the united country. In one of his last interviews he declared himself concerned for the fate of German democracy, which he feared was forfeiting its spiritual side to become a plaything of party ideologies.

He became the focus of controversy in his own party when he claimed that the identification of Germans with their fatherland was "very poorly developed", and met Chancellor Kohl often to discuss ways to promote the true unity of Germany, not just on paper but in the hearts of its citizens, East and West.



RICARDO CAMINOS

Ricardo Augusto Caminos, Wilbour Professor of Egyptology at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, from 1972 to 1979, died in London on May 26 aged 76. He was born in Buenos Aires on July 11, 1915.

THROUGHOUT his active and productive career as an Egyptologist Ricardo Caminos shunned the limelight, sought no honours and lived a reclusive life, but enjoyed immensely the pleasures of the table in the company of friends and colleagues.

Paleography (the study of handwritten texts) and epigraphy (the study of monumental texts and representations) were Caminos's chosen fields of specialisation. His publications in paleography are models of precision and demonstrate a fine instinct for establishing an accurate text combined with acute understanding of the significance of the content.

Literary Fragments in the Hieratic Script (1955) marked his arrival as a scholar of rare skill and perspicacity; his *Tale of Woe* (1977) revealed the depth of his understanding of the ancient Egyptian mind. The papyrus containing the latter is in the Pushkin Museum, Moscow, and its content is in the form of a letter in which the writer sets out his wretched history and his hope for rescue by, presumably, the king of Egypt. Its difficult vocabulary and elusive language provided Caminos with a fine opportunity for imaginative elucidation.

In 1975 Caminos contributed a thoughtful paper to a conference on problems of history sources and methods in Cairo, subsequently published in 1976, in which he stated his views on the copying of the scenes and texts on standing monuments in Egypt. He strongly supported the idea that it was not sufficient to produce a reliable copy of what might be on the wall of a temple or a tomb. It was also important to convey, as far as possible, the "feel" of the original so that the ultimate publication would not only contain accurate representations of the original but also do justice to the artistry of the ancient craftsman. His first lessons in careful epigra-



phy were undertaken with the Egyptian expedition of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago working in the temples in ancient Thebes (Luxor).

Ricardo Caminos had received his Egyptological grounding in the Oriental Institute to which he had come early in the war after receiving his first degree in the University of Buenos Aires in 1938. In 1944 he travelled to a war-austere Oxford to work with Professor Battiscombe Gunn at the Queen's College. He was utterly seduced by Oxford but did not allow his infatuation to prevent his reading more books in the Peet Memorial Library of that college than anyone previously or since.

The inscriptions on the so-called Bubastite Portal in the Temple of Karnak formed the subject of his researches; they contain essentially an account of the career of Osorkon, son of King Takeloth III of the 22nd dynasty (ninth to eighteenth century BC), a rich historical narrative of official activities, civil wars and anarchy. In 1947 he joined the Egyptian expedition of the Oriental Institute in Luxor where he remained until 1950. His *Chronicle of Prince Osorkon* was published in 1953.

He returned to Oxford in 1950 to work with Sir Alan

Gardiner on preparing a commentary on the texts known as miscellanies — short unconnected pieces of fine writing, ancient Egyptian *belles-lettres*. This work earned him an Oxford DPhil in 1952; it was published in 1954. It was Gardiner who then encouraged Caminos into epigraphy on his own. In consequence in 1955 he went to work for some months at Gebel es-Silsila, to the south of Luxor, on behalf of the Egypt Exploration Society. In this enterprise he was encouraged by Professor Richard A. Parker, Wilbour Professor of Egyptology at Brown University, whose department he had joined as assistant professor in 1952. He continued to work at this site of ancient quarries, shrines, great inscriptions and a small temple, intermittently until 1982. A first volume on the shrines was published in 1963.

From 1952 to 1979 Caminos remained at Brown University, advancing from assistant professor to chairman of the department in 1971. His inclination was always directed at research and fieldwork rather than teaching and he was allowed ample opportunity under his predecessor, Professor Parker, to spend many seasons in Egypt and the Sudan, working always under the auspices of the Egypt Exploration Society. During the Nubian emergency, when archaeological activity in the Nile Valley was directed at rescue work in advance of the building of the high dam, he worked at Qasr Ibrim, Buhen, and Semna-Kumma, reaping single-handed a remarkable harvest of epigraphic records. Three substantial volumes on the monuments at Qasr Ibrim and Buhen were published in 1968 and 1974; the volumes on the temples at Semna-Kumma are close to publication.

Caminos was never idle, but he could always make time to answer the many enquiries he received from scholars worldwide. His solidly based scholarship inspired confidence and invited enquiries. He was also, especially in earlier days, a creative traveller, eager to visit unusual places, take part in learned conferences and contribute papers at meetings of colleagues. His range of friends, mostly Egyptologists, was large and devoted. To those who did not know him well he could seem austere and unapproachable. He was, in fact, generous of spirit, rich in enthusiasms, hospitable and kind.

After he retired from the C. E. Wilbour chair of Egyptology in 1979 he made his home in London in a small mews house next door to the offices and library of the Egypt Exploration Society with which he had been closely associated since 1955.

With great ingenuity he converted unpromising premises into a house ideally suited for his needs — upstairs a large working area housing his Egyptological library, with modest living quarters adjacent; and below, an impressive range of book stacks to accommodate his non-Egyptological library. The books in his non-professional library were beautifully bound and meticulously looked after; he cared for them perhaps more than for anything else. Throughout his life he haunted bookshops, had a sharp eye for a treasure, and although never possessed of substantial private means succeeded in building up a collection of notable range in four European languages, English, French, Italian and Spanish. He was unmarried.

Nature notes

NOISY young starlings are flying about with their parents, still calling for food. They often fall prey to kestrels, which hover and drop down on them, and to sparrow-hawks which dash in amongst them. Swallows are nesting in the rafters of barns and garages. While the female incubates her four or five spotted eggs, the male will sing a rapid twittering song on a telephone wire or clothes-line outside.

Nightjars are back among bracken and pine, they rest all day on the ground but at sunset make their purring song on a low branch or catch flying insects in the rides. In his courtship display, the male cracks his wings like a whip as he flies round his mate in the dusk.

Storms have drawn the last fading flowers off the horse-



THE NIGHTJAR chestnuts, and have scattered seeds like hundreds of tiny green boomerangs, under the Norway maples. White blossom is out on the locust trees, or false acacias. The tall stalks and small, dandelion-like flowers of common sowthistle are growing everywhere among the grass, and their stems are broken. A white rock-rose is in flower. New earthworms are out, and the grasshoppers are small blues.

DJM

Royal engagements

The Princess Royal will visit Emrysford Grammar School, Skipton, North Yorkshire, at 11.30, as President of the Rural Housing Trust, will attend a conference at Coniston Hall, Skipton, at 12.45, and, as Patron of the Incorporated Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, will attend the Vice President's dinner at Royal Insurance (UK), Liverpool, at 7.30.

Princess Margaret, as President of the NSPCC, will attend a fashion show at Clarendon's hotel at 7.30 given by Oscar de la Renta in aid of the society.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Prior of the Order of St John, will launch the St John Boat for the handicapped at Colwick

Park Marina, Nottingham, at 11.30, as Patron of the East Midlands Young Manager of the Year Award, will present the award at the Hilton Hotel, East Midlands Airport, at 12.30; will open the Lings Bar House, Gamston Lings Bar Road, at 2.50, and will visit the Nottinghamshire County exhibition at Rufford Abbey at 4.05 to mark the 350th anniversary of the raising of the Standard by Charles I.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the annual dedication service of the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor at the Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield, at 5.25 and will attend a reception afterwards at Butchers' Hall.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

HAGGAI In Prophecy the sixth c BC, who lived in Babylon. He was a cheerleader for the return from the exile. His central concern was the rebuilding of the temple as the essential element in the rehabilitation of the Israelites.

MICHAEL Younger daughter of Saul, David's first wife. When David brought the ark to Jerusalem, leaping and dancing before it, she looked out of a window and despised him, and later told him so. For this snootiness she was, traditionally, condemned by God never to have a child.

PUTIPHAR A prosperous officer in Pharaoh's guard. His wife tried to seduce Joseph, and when he made his excuses and left, accused him of trying to seduce her. The Thincroft in the Prado. Dante put her in the inferno as a teller of false tales.

MALCHUS A servant of the high priest, who was present when Jesus was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane, and whose right ear was cut off in the scuffle. Jesus commanded the assailant, whom John named as Peter, to lay off, and according to Luke, healed the ear.

Housing 'to lead recovery'

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

A RECOVERY in the housing market, which has probably begun already, is likely to lead the economy out of recession and support economic growth of more than 3 per cent from 1993, according to Cambridge Econometrics, a private consultancy linked to the University's economics department. The relative cost of housing to income has fallen back to levels prevailing before the last boom and the market is now being held back only by fear of unemployment and lack of confidence.

The forecast, released this morning, contrasts with much gloomier projections of the economy and the housing market put forward by most City and private economists, but is closer to the Treasury view as presented in the last Budget.

The most important factors powering the initial recovery in the economy will be housing and exports, the Cambridge forecasters say. Housebuilding and housing turnover will grow strongly because the "affordability" of housing, as measured by the ratio of house prices to earnings, has fallen to historically low levels. The costs of servicing a mortgage reached 44 per cent of average income at the peak but had fallen to 28 per cent by the end of 1991. A study for Cambridge Econometrics forecasts mort-

gage service could fall to 22 per cent of average incomes by the end of this year under the impact of rising earnings, falling interest rates and falling house prices.

Buyers may be holding back, even though they could afford to buy, because they want to avoid the risk of house prices falling further after they have bought. The group expects little or no rise in house prices until 1993.

In the longer-term, the group expects house prices to grow roughly in line with average earnings. The forecast notes that the demographic prospects for the housing market in 1990s are good, because the number of households in Britain is expected to keep rising by about 8.2 per cent annually. This is only slightly below the growth rate of 10 per cent in the 1980s, and the first half of the 1990s should show growth on the same scale as the 1980s as a whole, the report says.

The Cambridge group predict that GDP will grow 0.9 per cent this year, followed by 2.9 per cent in 1993 and 3.4 per cent in 1994, before settling down at a long-term trend growth rate of between 2.5 and 3 per cent annually. Inflation will decline to an average of 3.8 per cent by next year and remain around at or slightly below that level for the rest of the decade.



Money spinner: putting a new gloss on grainy old prints and selling them worldwide has enabled Peter Orton, chief executive of Hit Entertainment, to turn losses of £200,000 into a pre-tax profit of £621,249 in the company's second year. Now Hit is helping to produce animated versions of Shakespeare plays.

Banks to continue NHL debt moratorium

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

BANKERS to National Home Loans, the ailing centralised mortgage lender, are informally continuing a 90-day debt moratorium, which expired at the weekend, in the hope that agreement can still be reached on a refinancing package for the group's £700 million mortgage book.

Jonathan Perry, NHL

chairman and chief executive since the end of February, had persuaded the banks to waive for three months some of the terms of loans that the group feared it might not be able to meet to enable a rescue package to be assembled. Some of the covenants have since been breached. The group and has not won agreement from all its bankers, which number more

than 50. Mr Perry will be under pressure to achieve a refinancing in time for the announcement of NHL's results for the half year to end March, which is due in the middle of this month. For the year to end September, NHL registered a loss of £41 million after provisions of £81 million against its mortgage book. The group's non-mortgage

business, grouped in National Mortgage Bank, is being run down with a view to eventual closure in a separate operation led by Ian Hay Davison, chairman of Storehouse. Leading banks agreed a separate standby facility of £200 million in case the bank suffered a loss of deposits and some of this is believed to have been required.

Ukraine urged by World Bank to reform economy

BY ROBERT SEELY

THE World Bank's chief economist has warned the Ukrainian government that failure to implement liberalisation more swiftly would deal a fatal blow to the former Soviet republic's chances of economic success and to its plan to launch its new currency, the hryvna, this year.

Speaking at the end of a five-day visit to the Ukraine, Larry Summers said that the World Bank had doubts whether Ukraine, now the most populated country in eastern Europe, except Russia, could successfully transform its state-run industries in to a market economy.

"Without more rapid reforms a new currency would be a very perilous undertaking," he said. Hyper-inflation, more reliance on barter and continued fall in inter-republican trade would result if Ukraine introduced its currency before its economy was ready. "It comes down to the familiar trinity of stabilisation, liberalisation and privatisation."

At the heart of Ukraine's

difficulties is in-fighting between ministers and presidential advisers who have delayed publication of a privatisation programme.

The size of the budget deficit, the disincentive effect of high tax rates, and the continued heavy state subsidies to underwrite inefficient state enterprises and hundreds of thousands of jobs caused the Bank's representatives to question Ukraine's ability to see what Mr Summers described as the country's "historic turning point."



Summers sceptical

Rolls-Royce plc ANNOUNCEMENT

The result of the poll taken on resolution number 9, following the Annual General Meeting of Rolls-Royce plc, 27 May 1992, is as follows:

Votes cast: for 155,860,233
against 18,627,087

The resolution is therefore carried.

NEW INTEREST RATES

From 1st June 1992

SPECIAL DIVIDENDS	OVERSEAS RESIDENTS AND CHARITIES ACCOUNT	TESSA
For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50	For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50	For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50
For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25	For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25	For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25
For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75	For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75	For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75
For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50	For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50	For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50
BENEFIT SHARES	MONTHLY INCOME SHARES	THRIFT SHARES
For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50	For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50	For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50
For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25	For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25	For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25
For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75	For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75	For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75
For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50	For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50	For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50
REGULAR SAVINGS	SHARE ACCOUNTS	OVERSEAS RESIDENTS AND CHARITIES ACCOUNT
For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50	For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50	For investments of £10,000 or more, 10.50
For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25	For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25	For investments of £5,000 or more, 10.25
For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75	For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75	For investments of £1,000 or more, 9.75
For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50	For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50	For investments of less than £1,000, 9.50

Australia may merge airlines

FROM REUTERS IN SYDNEY

THE Australian government is considering merging Qantas Airways, its international flag carrier, with Australian Airlines, the domestic operator, as part of its shakeup of the aviation industry, Paul Keating, the prime minister, said.

He said about 70 per cent of the merged airline could be sold to local and international investors. Mr Keating added: "The synergies which arrive from the purchase of Australian by Qantas are quite profound."

Restructuring the aviation market, as mooted in his February economic statement, would mean domestic airlines would be given a chance to fly internationally. He said: "That will mean building two, at least two, international carriers." Mr Keating also said it was possible that an international airline could take a management role in the new Qantas. We could do that by a [share] float to the Australian people... and maybe reserving in that float substantial sections of the shares for other major international airlines who might wish to take a piece and manage it, because part of the weakness of Qantas is its management structure," he said.

UK rules the stands at Piraeus

FROM CHRIS ELIOU IN ATHENS

MORE than a hundred British maritime companies will lead the exhibitors in Posidonía-92, the biennial international shipping showcase opening in Piraeus today. Aside from Greece, Britain will have the largest representation among the 52 countries participating, with shipyard and equipment manufacturers, brokers, legal services and finance and insurance companies exhibiting. The UK national display, mounted by the British Marine Equipment Association with the support of the Department of Trade and Industry and featuring more than 30 exhibitors, will be competing against the Italian pavilion as the largest of the 16 national exhibition stands.

Sir Brian Jenkins, the Lord Mayor of London, and the Earl of Cairness, the transport minister, will be attending the opening and will hold talks with Greek ministers, banking officials and shipping industry leaders. The Lord Mayor's talks will emphasise the City's role as an international maritime centre.

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Final figures: Barrie Stephens, chairman of Siebe, is expected to give a fair report

REPORTING THIS WEEK

Boots takes further step forward

ANOTHER year of growth from Boots The Chemist will help to drive full-year profits forward at Boots, the retail and pharmaceuticals group headed by Sir James Blyth.

Rodney Forrest, at Credit Lyonnais Laing, has pencilled in final pre-tax profits, due on Thursday, of £363.5 million (£345 million). Market forecasts range from £359 million to £375 million. Credit Lyonnais Laing expects earnings to climb to 25p (22.9p) a share, with a dividend of 12.5p (11.6p). Analysts are hoping for an upbeat statement, boosted by buoyant Easter trading and the fine weather.

News is also awaited on Manoplax, which is designed to treat congestive heart failure. Marketing approval may come this financial year from America.

TODAY

Westland Group, the helicopter maker based in Yeovil, is expected to report a modest rise in first-half pre-tax profits to £10 million, against £9.4 million last time, according to County NatWest. Forecasts range up to £11.5 million.

liveries will fall to 10 units this year, against 19 in 1991. The first half of this year is also expected to see a continuation of the weak demand for spares.

Interims: Fisher Press, Midlands Radio, Westland Group. Finals: Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, Borthwicks, Bristol Evening Post, Cream Group, Chester Waterworks, CSR, Cullen's Holdings, Hicking Pentecost, TR Property Investment Trust.

TOMORROW

The chemicals team at Smith New Court expects annual pre-tax profits at Allied Colloids Group, the speciality chemicals company, to grow to £43 million, against £38.9 million last time. A dividend of 3.85p (3.5p) is predicted.

UBS Phillips & Drew has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £76 million (£58.9 million) for De La Rue, the banknote printer and maker of cash dispensers. Market forecasts range from £72 million to £80 million. A progress report is awaited on the integration of Inter Innovation, the Swedish currency-handling system and security products company, acquired

with the proceeds of October's £160 million rights issue. Full-year pre-tax profits at Powell Duffryn, the distribution, storage and engineering group, are expected to slip to £21.5 million from £28.9 million last time. Forecasts range from £20 million to £23 million.

Thames Water continues the water companies' reporting season. UBS Phillips & Drew forecasts an 11 per cent increase in final pre-tax profits to £235 million, with a dividend of 19.2p (17.5p). Market forecasts range from £230 million to £240 million.

Dunhill Holdings, the cash-rich international retailer and luxury goods group, is expected to report full-year pre-tax profits of £76 million, against £73.9 million, according to Nomura Research Institute.

Interims: Devenish (JA), Eurocopy, HunterPrint Group, Metro Radio Group, Perpetual, TSB Bank Channel Islands. Finals: Allied Colloids Group, Atkins Group, De La Rue, Dunhill Holdings, High Gosforth Park, Leigh Interests, Powell Duffryn, Thames Water.

(April); monetary statistics (including bank and building society balance sheets) (April); bill turnover statistics (April); sterling commercial paper (April); money market statistics (April); UK official reserves (May).

WEDNESDAY

Despite second-half savings in costs, Reed International, the publishing group, will be pushed to make up for the first-half shortfall in profits as revenues remain depressed. Advertising remains a key issue. No recovery is anticipated in this set of results.

Analysts expect final pre-tax profits of between £210 million and £220 million, against £221.8 million last year.

Siebe, the engineering group headed by Barrie Stephens, should announce a respectable set of final figures, aided by a late recovery in demand from America.

County NatWest forecasts final pre-tax profits of £160 million (£159 million). Market estimates range from £150 million to £165 million.

James's Place Capital, Siebe. Economic statistics: Overseas travel and tourism (March); advance energy statistics (April).

THURSDAY

Hoare Govett expects final pre-tax profits at Anglian Water to rise to £172 million, from £152.6 million last time. Forecasts range from £170 million to £172 million. A dividend of 19.1p (17.5p) is anticipated.

Interims: None announced. Finals: Anglian Water, Boots, Dart Group, IWP International, Norcross, Rowinson Securities, 600 Group, URS International.

Economic statistics: Cyclical indicators for the UK economy (April); second estimate; investment intentions of the manufacturing and service industries (spring survey); details of employment, unemployment, earnings, prices.

FRIDAY

Interims: Carr's Milling Industries, EPM Income Trust, Mid Southern Water, Property Partnerships, Somic.

PHILIP PANGALOS

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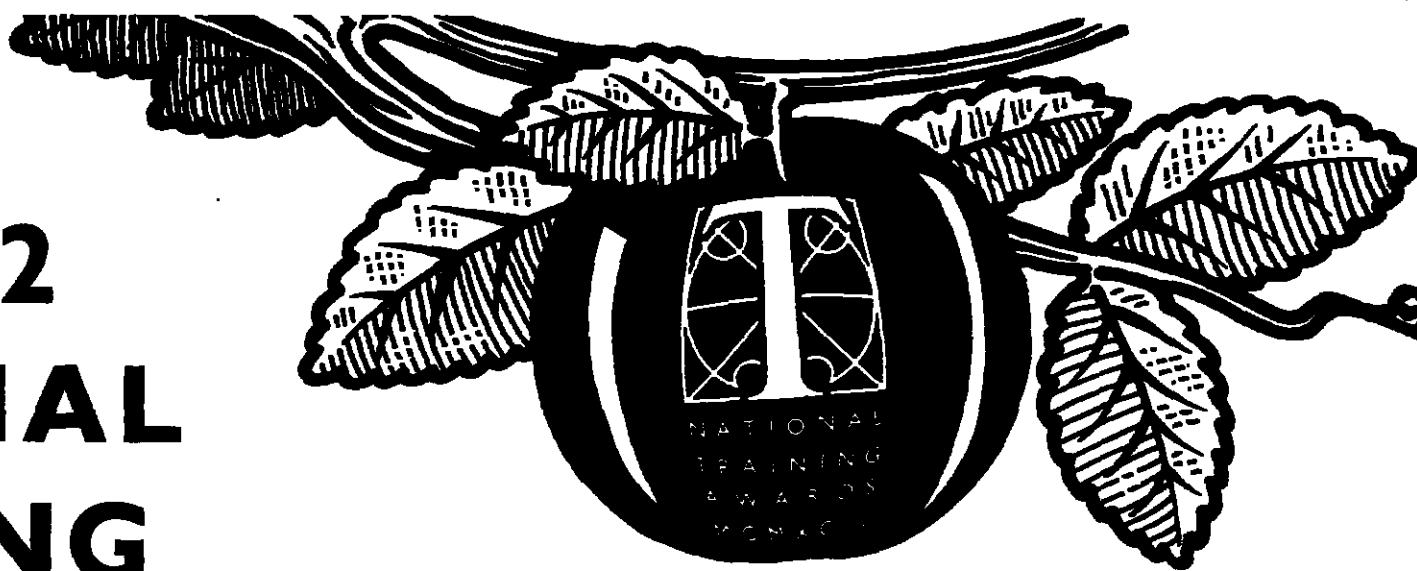
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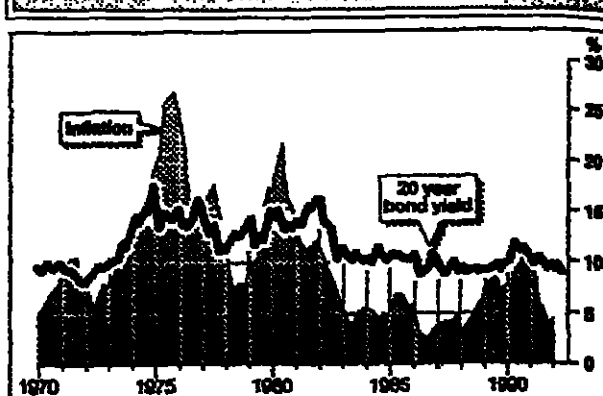
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GILT-EDGED



Longs on track to see yields of 8% by the year-end

Gilt yields have fallen so far in the past two years that it is tempting to look for a correction. In fact, as the chart shows, they are only at the levels that ruled in the late Eighties, before the inflationary upsurge created by the Lawson boom took yields with it. But real yields hold the key and they point to a continued bull run. For the level of real yields is unsustainably high.

This is not self-evident if you look at the headline rate of inflation, which has just moved up to 4.3 per cent. Using this to estimate, the real yield would give a figure of about 4.5 per cent, only slightly higher than the yield on index-linked gilts. At the underlying inflation rate of 5 per cent, the current real yield is even lower, close to 3.75 per cent. But this is not the way to look at it.

Disinflation has been slow in the UK but it is now proceeding apace. In the latest figures, the core rate of inflation fell by 0.5 per cent, the largest monthly fall this cycle. Underlying, as well as headline, inflation, is set to reach 3 per cent next year. Moreover, given modest growth in domestic demand during the next few years, and the ERM constraint, this low rate of inflation looks built in. On this basis the real yield is more like 5.75 per cent, making gilts attractive.

Apart from inflation not turning out so low, there are two principal lines of attack against this case. The first is that real rates of 5.75 per cent or so will be considered normal. This is supported principally from the experience of the 1980s when, as the chart shows, real yields looked persistently high. Yet economic conditions for most of the Eighties were radically different.

Most important, there was little confidence that inflation would stay low, even when the rate was low. At various times in the decade, investors were worried about a sharp change of policy, perhaps caused by a Labour victory at the next

election. The move towards low inflation now is altogether different, for political risk and union militancy are dead ducks, economic growth will remain low, and exchange rate risk is reduced with the pound a full member of the ERM.

The second prong of the bear case is the argument that high levels of public borrowing justify higher levels of expected real yields more now than in the 1980s.

Once the PSBR is calculated as a ratio of GDP, it is not much higher than in the early Eighties, even when privatisation receipts are excluded, let alone anywhere near the levels sustained in the mid-1970s.

Two factors, moreover, make a given flow of debt issues, in real terms, easier to absorb than in the early Eighties. Firstly, issues then came after a decade of high public borrowing which had left UK institutions stuffed with gilt-edged stock. Gilt issues now come after a period of debt repayment, with the result that institutions' holdings of gilts are comparatively low.

Secondly, gilts are now part of an international capital market and the basic level of real yields is set internationally. If funding worries were to cause gilt yields to rise, other than fleetingly, above the level justified by the UK's inflation fundamentals, dealers would switch out of other European bond markets into gilts.

This consideration also limits gilts' scope for independent progress. On UK fundamentals alone a yield of 8 per cent on longs should be justified by the end of the year. The current yield differential against Bunds is 1.2 points. There is scope to narrow this substantially by the end of the year, but even so, 8 per cent gilt yields could only be realised if German yields also fall significantly. Fortunately this is on the cards, and long gilts are well on track to see 8 per cent yields by year-end.

Roger Bootle
Chief Economist
Greenwell Montagu Gilt-Edged

THE TIMES

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Offiah finishes with flourish to spare blushes

Kerly: taken off

Panthrope's 1 bpd St. John's, 1. Finishing
 Barker, 1. University, 1. Ball's, 1. Corpus
 Christi, 1. Everett, 1. St. Mary's, 1. Union, 1.
 Baker's, 1. Cuten's, 1. New College, 1.
 Brasenose, 1. Pembroke, 1.

FOURTH DIVISION: Panthrope's 1 bpd
 Barker, 1. Everett, 1. St. Mary's, 1. Union, 1.
 Ball's, 1. Corpus Christi, 1. Pembroke, 1.
 Orléans, 1. Order 1 bpd
 University 1 bpd Christ Church, 1; Jesus 1
 bpd St Catherine's, 1; New College 1 bpd
 Westham, 1. Finishing order: St. Peter's, 1.
 St. John's, 1. Westham, 1. St. Mary's, 1.
 Somerville, 1. Orléans, 1. Mansfield, 1.
 Order 1, Christ Church, 1. Jesus, 1. St.
 Catherine's, 1. New College, 1. Westham, 1.

FIFTH DIVISION: Oster House, 1 bpd
 St. John's, 1. St. Peter's, 1. St. Anne's, 1.
 St. John's, 1. St. Peter's, 1. St. Anne's, 1.
 Orléans 1 bpd St. John's, 1. St. Peter's,
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Silhouette in the sky: Tina Casson, the only girl in Britain's Nations Cup team, on her way to a clear round on Genesis at Hickstead

Spaniards claim third successive European athletics championship

Haringey achieve British best

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

HARINGEY yesterday achieved the best result by a British team in the 18-year history of the European clubs championship, but were well beaten in their attempt to become the first to win it. In what has lately become the trademark of good British workmanship, it was the 4 x 400 metres relay team that sealed Haringey's second place, at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham.

"We are absolutely delighted at achieving something no other British club has achieved," Phil Green, the Haringey manager, said. Larios, of Madrid, won for the third successive year. Coming to the last event, Larios had an unassailable lead. To be runners-up, Haringey had to finish at least four places ahead of Racing Club. There was shades of Black, Redmond and Regis as Gary Cadogan, Brian Whittle and Tony Jarrett put

Haringey on the shoulder of the leaders into the last leg.

When Wayne McDonald moved out to attack Cayetano Cornet, of Larios, the competition 400 metres record holder, coming off the final bend, it looked like becoming a perfect rerun of Kriss Akabusi's burst past Antonio Pettigrew in Tokyo. But, sadly, no. Cornet held firm but McDonald's disappointment was transformed into delight when he turned round to see Racing Club finish seventh.

The climax to the second day was in contrast to the first, when Clarence Callender dropped the Haringey baton on the final changeover of the sprint relay. That, too, brought to mind a British team from last year, at the European Cup, when Marcus Adam and Linford Christie messed up the final changeover.

Haringey rose to new heights without so much as a victory on the second day. Relay apart, the best performances were the second

places achieved by Simon Fairbrother in the 1,500 metres, behind a competition record of 3min 38.44sec by Manuel Pancorbo, of Larios, and Mark Roberson in the javelin, behind a Spanish record of 78.28 metres by Julian Sotelo. First-day victories by White, in the 800 metres, Jarrett, in the high hurdles, and John Herbert, in the triple jump, had set Haringey off to a promising start. The invitation events

brought wins for Linford Christie in the 100 metres on Saturday and, yesterday, for Peter Elliott in the 800 metres. Elliott, in his first race of the season, did all that was required of him, winning in 1min 46.52sec. In so doing, he defeated the two young world junior men's champions, Wilfred Kirochi and Jonah Birir.

Kirochi won the world junior 1,500 metres title in 1986, when he was 16 years and 221 days; two years later, Birir won the 800 metres when he was 16 years and 215 days. Elliott, at 29, is still awaiting his first global title. Perhaps it will come at the Olympic Games, in the 1,500 metres. He will have a better idea of his chances after the Dream Mile in Oslo on July 4. According to his manager-coach, Kim McDonald, that will be the one occasion when he will race Noureddine Morceli, the world champion from Algeria, before the Olympics.

RESULTS FROM BIRMINGHAM

100m: 1, D Eassey (Larios, Sp), 10.46sec; 2, D Brathwaite (Haringey), 10.66; 200m: 1, Eassey, 20.61; 3, C Callender (Haringey), 21.37; 400m: 1, M Vascari (Flametta Azzurra, It), 46.70; 2, W McDonald (Haringey), 46.80; 800m: 1, B Bouteb (Larios, Sp), 1min 50.46sec; 1,500m: 1, M Pancorbo (Larios, Sp), 3:38.44 (championship best); 2, S Fairbrother (Haringey), 3:40.44; 5,000m: 1, A Neal (Racing Club, Fr), 15:51.16; 8, M King (Haringey), 14:06.51; 10,000m: 1, B Bouteb (Larios, Sp), 28:58.55; 5, S Harris (Haringey), 29:49.54; 110m hurdles: A Jarrett (Haringey), 13.55sec (championship best); 400m hurdles: 1, A Dax (Racing Club, Fr), 48.28; 7, B Grant (Haringey), 52.18; 1,500m steeplechase: 1, J Azzurra (Larios, Sp), 5min 37.00sec; 3, K Perney (Haringey), 6:43.33; 4 x 100m relay: 1,

Racing Club, 38.48sec; Haringey, 40.4; 4 x 400m relay: 1, Larios, 3min 05.59sec; 2, Haringey, 3:05.78; 3, Flametta Azzurra, 3:06.55.

High jump: 1, A Ortiz (Larios, Sp), 2.21m; equal 3, D Grant (Haringey), F Bortolotti (Flametta Azzurra, It) and J Vincent (Racing Club, Fr), 2.10; Pole vault: 1, G Villor (Partizan Belgrade, Yug), 5.50; 7, M Johnson (Haringey), 4.80; Long jump: 1, C Alami (Larios, Sp), 8.01; 2, J Herbert (Haringey), 7.55; Triple jump: Herbert, 14.45; Shot: 1, D Parle (Partizan Belgrade, Yug), 20.05; 6, S Rickering (Haringey), 17.12; Hammer: 1, W Collier (Racing Club, Fr), 74.98; 6, G Callow (Haringey), 62.26; Discus: 1, Raps (Dukla Prague, Cze), 60.00; 5, P Gordon (Haringey), 52.54; Javelin: 1, J Sotelo (Larios), 78.28; 2, M Roberson (Haringey), 75.18.

Final placings: 1, Larios, 136pts; 2, Haringey, 100.5; 3, Racing Club, 98; 4, Flametta Azzurra, 88.5; equal 5, Partizan Belgrade, 87.7; 6, Dax, 85.5; 7, Barcelona, 85.5.

Invitation events: 100m: 1, L Christie (Thames Valley), 10.43sec; 2, M Adam (Belgium), 10.45; 3, S Goss (Thames Valley), 10.54; 200m: 1, Adam, 20.75; 2, J Rege (Belgium), 20.88; 3, D Powell (Kingston), 21.54; 400m: 1, P Elliott (Haringey), 1min 46.52sec; 2, M Steele (Longwood), 1:46.68; 3, B White (Haringey), 1:47.58; 800m: 1, A Kirochi (Kenya), 1:46.52; 2, W Dea (Lugan), 1:50.54; 3, N Smart (Shaftesbury Barnet), 1:50.07.

Fourie to lead the way as S Africa get back on track

BY DAVID POWELL

JOHAN Fourie, the South African record-holder at 1,500 metres, will today lead his country's return to world athletics by competing in the International Amateur Athletic Federation invitation meeting in Bratislava.

South Africa, banned by the IAAF in 1976, was readmitted on Friday, leaving their athletes free to join the international circuit and go to the Olympic Games. Fourie is the first to step on to the world track, lining up in the 3,000 metres against Ian Hamer, the Commonwealth 5,000 metres bronze medal-winner from Wales.

The South African athletics selectors have been given 25 of their country's 97 places allocated by the International Olympic Committee. Zola Pieterse, formerly Budd, has been confirmed among them, as have three black marathon runners in a whites-dominated team. Elana Meyer, South

Africa's most exciting talent and a threat to Liz McColgan's Olympic 10,000 metres hopes, will race outside Africa for the first time over 3,000 metres in Hengelo, The Netherlands, on June 28.

Bratislava has attracted a high quality entry as the rush begins to warm up for the Olympics. Michael Johnson, the 200 metres world champion, is the main attraction, running against Roger Black, of Britain, in the 400 metres. Johnson still gives no clue to his Olympic plans, saying only that he would run 200 and 400 metres in the United States trials a month hence.

The 1993 grand prix final, which the IAAF last year awarded to Wembley, is to be switched to Crystal Palace, reducing the spectator capacity from 80,000 to 17,000. Before making the necessary structural changes to the stadium to stage the final, Wem-

bley wanted assurances that other events would be held there, a commitment the IAAF was not prepared to give.

Liz McColgan dodged Central Park's roller-skaters and cyclists to win her latest Olympic warm-up race in New York on Saturday.

Scotland's 10,000 metres world champion beat a field of 3,500 other women to take the annual 10-kilometre road race in 31min 41sec, 18 seconds ahead of the Commonwealth champion, Lisa Ondieki.

McColgan said: "This was a good test. In getting ready for Barcelona, you need good races to keep yourself sharp." The race followed three weeks of hard training in the heat and humidity of Gainesville, Florida, where the climate is similar to that of Barcelona. McColgan has returned to Britain to get back to track racing and training.

RESULTS: Men: 100m: 1, C Rumbolt (British Students), 10.74sec; 2, G Goss (Belgium), 10.75; 200m: 1, Goss, 21.63; 2, Rumbolt, 21.80; 400m: D McPhee (AAU), 47.07; 800m: M Ford (AAU), 1min 41.50; 1,500m: 1, L Christie (Thames Valley), 3:42.58; 2, J Nuttal (guest), 3:43.07; 3,000m: 1, J Buckner (Loughborough), 7:54.25; 2, N Richardson (guest), 8:04.38; 3, J Sherron (guest), 8:05.71; 110m hurdles: 1, J Nuttal (AAU), 14.85sec; 2, C Powell (BS), 14.65; 400m hurdles: R Brown (AAU), 1:51.38; 3,000m steeplechase: 1, K Cullen (AAU), 8min 41.02sec; 2, S Duval (guest), 8:44.0; 4 x 100m relay: BSSP, 3min 05.82sec; Pole vault: 1, Telford (guest), 5.15m; Long jump: 5 Phillips (AAU), 7.52m; Triple jump: J Goss (AAU), 15.16m; Shot: N Spillier (AAU), 17.00m; Discus: G Smith (AAU), 56.16m; Hammer: J Byrne (AAU), 67.90m; Javelin: M Cottrell (AAU), 72.80m.

WOMEN: 100m: G McLeod (AAU), 11.87sec; 400m: C Raven (Loughborough), 54.58; 800m: J Spurr (BS), 2min 08.34sec; 1,500m: 1, L York (AAU), 4:10.22; 2, B Nicholson (guest), 4:10.52; 3,000m hurdles: L Fraser (AAU), 57.59sec; Long jump: J Wise (Loughborough), 6.51m; Discus: J McKenna (Loughborough), 56.38m.

MATCH SCORE: 1, AAU, 18pts; 2, British Students Sports Federation, 126; 3, Loughborough, 103.

Norris escapes

Terry Norris, the WBC super welterweight champion, aged 25, escaped with minor injuries, at El Cajon, California, after losing control of his Jeep on a motorway and rolling it over.

Britain beat France to Nations Cup

Skelton doubles his Olympic prospects

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

NICK Skelton leapt into the forefront of Olympic selection on Saturday, the last day of the Hickstead Nations Cup meeting.

In the afternoon, riding Everest Limited Edition, he helped Britain to win the Alexandre Marini Nations Cup by eight points from France. Afterwards, on the same course, he qualified his second horse, Dollar Girl, for the Olympic Games. "I looked like a down-and-out last week," Skelton said. "Now I have two strings to my bow."

Dollar Girl, a former Swiss team horse, had been out of competition since Gothenburg in early March after suffering from an abscess on her foot. On Saturday she needed 12 faults or fewer to qualify for Barcelona. She finished on ten after hitting two fences and collecting two time faults.

Not yet fully fit, she will have another chance to show her form at the Kappellen Nations Cup show in Belgium next week.

Ronnie Massarella, the British team manager, is delighted to have the experienced Skelton back in contention. "He had a bad time with Limited Edition in Lucerne earlier this month but the horse is going better all the time," he said. Skelton's

opening clear round with Everest Limited Edition paved the way for the British victory.

Tina Casson, the only girl in the team, enhanced her chances of Olympic selection with a superb clear round on the eight-year-old Genesis. Having failed to go clear in the Grand Prix on Thursday, Casson was riding under considerable pressure.

In the first round they just clipped the Derby Rails to finish on four faults. In the second round, Genesis, probably the most talented horse of the four in the team, underlined his ability with a clear round which gave Britain victory. David Broome, who had gone clear in the first round on Ancit Lannegan, did not need to jump a second time.

The United States-based Tim Grubb, who hopes to be one of the four riders at Barcelona, did his chances no harm with just four faults in each round. This was the first time at Hickstead for the eight-year-old Denizen. "He was being thrown in at the deep end," Grubb said. He passed the test admirably. On Thursday in the Grand Prix they had just three quarters of a time fault.

The win on Saturday has increased Britain's lead in the Nations Cup League Series. For Malcolm Pyrah, the newly appointed Olympic team

trainer, it reflects a 100 per cent success rate. Last week, soon after taking up his appointment, he masterminded the team that won in Madrid.

Even so, Pyrah and Massarella are well aware that there are "more difficult tests" for the British in the run-up to Barcelona. Of the seven teams competing at Hickstead, only the New Zealanders, who had an off day and finished last, were at full strength.

Britain lacked the two Whitakers. The French, Dutch, Germans and Irish were also without key riders. "But it is always good for the morale to win at home," Massarella said. "It sets us up on the right track for Barcelona and confirms that we still have seven riders for Olympic selection. It's just that two have to go."

Joe Turf, Michael and John Whitaker will join the Nations Cup four in a further Olympic trial at the Royal International Horse Show at Hickstead next week.

RESULTS: Alexandre Marini Nations Cup: 1, GB, 12 faults (Everest Limited Edition, N Skelton, 0; 4, Genesis, T Casson, 0; 2, Denizen, T Grubb, 4; 4, Lannegan, D Broome, 0); 2, France, 20; 3, Ireland, 24; Standings in Nations Cup League Series: 1, GB, 35; 2, France, 15½; 3, Switzerland, 12; equal 4, Belgium and Italy, 6; 5, Spain, 5; Alexandre Marini Final and Qual: 1, B Casson (R Spillier, 10); 2, Henderson (R Pyrah, 10); 3, M Whitaker (GB), 3; Olympic Qualifier (J Coor, 10m).

RACING

Game Zoman lands rich French reward

FROM OUR FRENCH RACING CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS

ZOMAN'S admirable consistency was fully rewarded at Longchamps yesterday when enterprising tactics from Alan Munro saw him collect the £51,000 Prix D'Ispahan.

The strong favourite Selkirk (Ray Cochrane) faded into sixth place after briefly threatening a furlong out.

Zoman, over 12-1 on the Pari-mutuel, was a second recent group one French triumph for Paul Cole following Culture Culture's French 1,000 Guineas success.

Munro set the five-year-old past L'Amour Fou early in the straight and the combina-

tion kept battling to the line to beat Arcangues (Thierry Jarnet) by a neck with Exit To Nowhere (Freddy Head) a length-and-a-half away third.

Cole said: "He is a really game colt and we must now consider the Eclipse."

Selkirk's trainer, Ian Balding, commented: "Some of my horses just have not been right recently. Certainly that was not Selkirk's form."

It was almost a group one double for Britain when Richard Hannon's Lucky Lindy (Pat Eddery) was beaten a short neck by Kirtwood in the Prix Jean Prat.

Irish triumph in Rome

IN A Tiff, trained by Dermot Weld and ridden by Michael Kinane, continued the tremendous strike-rate of Irish raiders in Italian classics this season by winning the £263,346 Derby Italiano (12h) in Rome yesterday.

After the successes of Treasure Hope in the Italian 1,000 Guineas and Ivanna, Italian Oaks, in A Tiff, who paid over 13-1 on the tote, carried on the good work by holding the strong-finishing Merzouk by half-a-length.

Luca Cumani's Masad did best of the British runners by finishing a further neck back in third, with Vasarelli, another Irish runner, fourth.

Lanfranco Dettori was the toast of Rome on Saturday when he landed a treble on Inner City, Secret Haunt and Luzzi, the first two trained by Cumani.

Hondo Mondo won the Grosser Preis der Wirtschaft in Baden-Baden. Ruby Tiger was third and Karinga Bay fourth.

Curley casts Epsom vote in favour of Rodrigo De Triano

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

BARNEY Curley, the colourful gambler-trainer has won fortunes on the outcome of the Derby over the years, and yesterday he revealed why he has backed Rodrigo De Triano to win £150,000 on Wednesday.

"The Derby has been a lucky race for me ever since 1972 when I had the lot, £40,000, on Roberto and Lester Piggott. There was a photo finish which took five minutes to decide, followed by a half-hour stewards' enquiry. If he had not won I would have been sunk."

Since then Curley has regularly found the winner of the premier classic. The Minstrel, Shirley Heights, Troy, Shergar, Teenoso, Slip Anchor, Shahrasani, Reference Point, Kahyasi, and last year he had a saver on Generous.

He admits this year's race is a "mystery," but still believes Peter Chapple-Hyam's dual 2,000 Guineas winner can win.

"It is not sentimentality. The horse dodged in in both Guineas. Lester never says much but I know he thinks this is a fair horse. There is a lot in his favour, especially the pilot. The Curragh is a stiffer mile than Newmarket and he got that easily. They tried to kill him by setting a fast pace yet he was still cantering."

"He has won two Guineas

and done nothing wrong. The way he is bred, he could be something special, a complete freak. Lester will know exactly when to pop the question and the course won't pose any problems."

One of the secrets of picking winners is knowing why the other runners will not win. Curley's analysis of the leading contenders is blunt.

"Alnasr Alwasheek 'dogged' it in the 2,000 Guineas. There was no excuse, he just did not run well. In the Dante he had everything his own way, which he won't have on Wednesday. I don't think Great Palm will act on the track. It is difficult for such a big horse like that."

"Sangster's horse devoured Muhtarram in the Guineas and I see no reason why there should be any change at Epsom. If it takes

Assessor as long to get going as it took at Lingfield he will be a long way behind. As for Dr Devious, I think Rodrigo has more class."

"Silver Wisp and the other horses in the 2,000 Guineas were made to look ordinary by Rodrigo. Silver Wisp tends to pull himself up when he is in the front."

"Twist and Turn is a battler. He will keep on, but I think he is lazy. I backed him in the Chester Vase and he nearly gave me a heart attack."

Rainbow Corner, the lone French-trained runner, is not dismissed so easily. "He could have a chance, given the French Guineas form and his run behind Arazzi last year. He looks as though he will stay."

"I have backed Rodrigo at 12-1 and 10-1 and I might have a saver on Rainbow Corner."

As sunshine replaced the showers over the weekend punters latched on to Rodrigo De Triano. He is now 6-1 favourite with Ladbrokes and William Hill, while Corals have him joint favourite with Great Palm.

Muhtarram completed his Derby preparation yesterday with a seven-and-a-half furlong gallop at Newmarket while Follen Count, also trained by John Gosden, worked well over 8 mile.



Grin and bear it: Hugh Jones, of Britain, on his way to winning the Stockholm Marathon on Saturday

Buckner returns and laps up the applause

BY MARK HERBERT

IN A meeting where the emphasis was on youthful potential, the experience of Jack Buckner stole the show at Loughborough yesterday. Running for the Loughborough University Past and Present in its annual fixture against the Amateur Athletic Association and British Students, he destroyed the field in the 3,000 metres.

Buckner, winner of the European 5,000 metres in 1986, has had more injury problems than he cares to

recall. Hip and foot ailments have dogged him and he doubts whether he will recapture his form in time for the Olympics. "I am playing it low-key at the moment," he said. His time yesterday, 7min 54.25sec, showed the sort of improvement he was looking for. "I'll do," he said.

He took the lead from Andy Lyons at halfway, opened a 20-yard lead at the bell, and hit the finishing line as his nearest challengers were rounding the home bend. The reception his victory received was in keeping with

that for a local favourite running for the tenth year here, and winning for the fifth time.

Elsewhere, youth had its way as the AAA, largely a Great Britain under-23 team, beat off the challenge of the British Students. Lisa York's bold attack from the front in the women's 1,500 metres enabled her to resist Bev Nicholson's kick and her time, 4min 10.23sec, was the fastest by a British this year. The men's event held a surprise, too, Matt De Freitas holding off John Nuttall.

RESULTS: Men: 100m: 1, C Rumbolt (British Students), 10.74sec; 2, G Goss (Belgium), 10.75; 200m: 1, Goss, 21.63; 2, Rumbolt, 21.80; 400m: D McPhee (AAU), 47.07; 800m: M Ford (AAU), 1min 41.50; 1,500m: 1, L Christie (Thames Valley), 3:42.58; 2, J Nuttal (guest), 3:43.07; 3,000m: 1, J Buckner (Loughborough), 7:54.25; 2, N Richardson (guest), 8:04.38; 3, J Sherron (guest), 8:05.71; 110m hurdles: 1, J Nuttal (AAU), 14.85sec; 2, C Powell (BS), 14.65; 400m hurdles: R Brown (AAU), 1:51.38; 3,000m steeplechase: 1, K Cullen (AAU), 8min 41.02sec; 2, S Duval (guest), 8:44.0; 4 x 100m relay: BSSP, 3min 05.82sec; Pole vault: 1, Telford (guest), 5.15m; Long jump: 5 Phillips (AAU), 7.52m; Triple jump: J Goss (AAU), 15.16m; Shot: N Spillier (AAU), 17.00m; Discus: G Smith (AAU), 56.16m; Hammer: J Byrne (AAU), 67.90m; Javelin: M Cottrell (AAU), 72.80m.

WOMEN: 100m: G McLeod (AAU), 11.87sec; 400m: C Raven (Loughborough), 54.58; 800m: J Spurr (BS), 2min 08.34sec; 1,500m: 1, L York (AAU), 4:10.22; 2, B Nicholson (guest), 4:10.52; 3,000m hurdles: L Fraser (AAU), 57.59sec; Long jump: J Wise (Loughborough), 6.51m; Discus: J McKenna (Loughborough), 56.38m.

Norris escapes

Terry Norris, the WBC super welterweight champion, aged 25, escaped with minor injuries, at El Cajon, California, after losing control of his Jeep on a motorway and rolling it over.

Mahasin ready to sparkle again

JOHN Danlop is unlikely to be involved in the Derby finish on Wednesday with just the 200-1 outsider Rajai to represent him.

But the Arundel trainer can start the big classic week on a high note by saddling his talented filly Mahasin to capture the David Wilmot Stakes at Leicester today.

Mahasin endured two serious setbacks last season, a felloe injury and colic, but she still took her chance in the 1,000 Guineas.

However, she was not on her best behaviour that day. Unruly in the stalls, she ran far too freely and was a spent force two furlongs out, quickly fading to finish twelfth of the 14 runners.

But the Danzig filly was a revelation when she reappeared in a seven-furlong maiden event at Kempton in May, making all for a stylish three-length victory over Queen Warrior.

Julie Cecil opposes her with Wishing Well, who shaped with promise when a creditable third behind Spell Of The Yukon at Pontefract last July, but Mahasin should prove too sharp for her on this occasion.

Charles Cyzer's Rising Tempo, who stayed on stoutly at Sandown a week ago to record his first victory of the season, can defy a 4lb penalty in the Barnsdale Country Club Handicap.

Ben Hanbury's Moonlight achieved so far, and Tee Gee Jay appears as a sporting nap. John Benstead's Deevie showed improved form when a close second to Glide Path at Lingfield last month, and with just 7st 8lb to carry, can go one better in the Rothmans Royals North South Challenge Series Handicap at the expense of Toss The Dice.

Glide Path, trained by John Hills, also reappears at Redcar in the Beryl Berry Handicap, but he is at the other end of the handicap and may find the task of conceding 17lb to Boring beyond him.

Will Storey is clearly striking while the iron is hot with Boring, who opened his account in excellent style at Edinburgh on Saturday.

Hills, however, can collect with his hardy veteran Gliderdale, who is preferred to Maskakel in the Dick Glarvey Handicap.

Roger Charlton's Cantanta is likely to be at short odds for the Harry Rudland Maiden Stakes, but she has looked rather one-paced in his two outings so far.

It may be worth opposing her with James Fanshawe's Sakhal, who can improve on her fifth behind at Spilkenard at Beverley.

Blinkered first time
REDCAR: 2.15 Fasten, 3.45 Mubwa, Redcar, Leicester: 2.00 Nominie Prince, Nun The Weiser, 3.00 Kentucky Stakes, 4.30 Undesale.

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Pipe dominates again in memorable season

By CHRISTOPHER GOULDING

THE final chapter of the National Hunt season came to a close at Stratford on Saturday, when Martin Pipe and Peter Scudamore again dominated, as they have throughout the season, with a double.

But torrential rain nearly brought the season to a premature end for the champion trainer, taking the title for a fourth time, and jockey, claiming his eighth. Under-terred by the flooded car parks and likely abandonment, the crowds, as usual, came in their droves. However, conditions deteriorated throughout the afternoon with two chases abandoned after Richard Dunwoody, Mark Piman and Ben De Haan described conditions as the worst they had ridden in.

Dunwoody, who achieved a personal best with 137 winners, won the three-hour Gamblers' Prize Chase with Four Tails, while the controversial Golden Freeze, the 6-4 on favourite, curled up when taken on for the lead.

Golden Freeze's earlier participation in the Cheltenham Gold Cup obliterated for many the race of season when Carville's Hill was expected to claim his crown as the leading chaser of the season.

Unfortunately, his massive stature and reputation was in tatters after he limped over the line in last place. Foul play was the cry after Golden Freeze had harried the majestic bay throughout the race, causing his often-suspect jumping to collapse.

A public outcry followed. Had Golden Freeze run on his merits? After a jockey Club enquiry, trainer and jockey Jenny Piman and Michael Bowley were deemed innocent.

With the retirement of Desert Orchid in the King George VI Chase, ironically ending his flamboyant career as he started, with a fall at Kempton, the accolade for the foremost chaser has been left open.

But Remittance Man is rapidly gaining popularity and status. After finishing third to The Fellow in the King George, he put up two outstanding performances in the Queen Mother Cham-

on Chase at Cheltenham, and later when taking the Mumm Melling Chase at Liverpool. At Liverpool, Carobee, the season's leading novice hurdler, displayed his outstanding virtues in the Seagram Top Novices' Hurdle.

A trainer and owner predominantly involved with Flat racing again took the Champion Hurdle when the Sheikh Mohammed-owned Royal Galt, plagued by leg problems, paid a meritorious tribute to James Fanshawe.

The young Newmarket trainer had obviously learnt the art of preparing a champion hurdler from his mentor, Michael Stoute, who saddled Kribensis to take the hurdling crown, also for the Sheikh, in 1990.

Barry Hills, another predominantly Flat trainer, sent out Nomadic Way in Robert Sangster's Hurdle to win the Stayers' Hurdle with Jamie Osborne on the saddle. Osborne finished the leading rider at the Festival.

But praise for jockeys during the campaign was continually lavished upon Adrian Maguire. Riding in his first season as a professional, Maguire capped his phenomenal term by winning the Gold Cup on Cool Ground for Toby Balding.

Prior to their Cheltenham success, Maguire and Cool Ground combined in the Greenalls Gold Cup Chase at Haydock to provide a performance memorable for its sheer exhilaration and devilment.

But the thrilling spectacle of jockeys and horses in unison cannot be taken for granted. Philip Barnard, aged 24, paid the ultimate price at Wincanton, where he took a fatal fall on Boxing Day.



Pipe: ended term on a high note

Martin Pipe, who had worked his sorcery in reforming the injury-prone chaser to win the Welsh National in devastating style, claimed: "He is the best I have ever trained."

At Stratford, the mention of that controversial Gold Cup still disturbs Pipe. "I'm afraid it will be a long time, if ever, before we can get him back," said the leading trainer. "He won't be back next year. His injuries are still a problem."

The devastating performance that Carville's Hill gave in the Welsh National can be measured by Party Politics, beaten 20 lengths in second, who went on to capture the Grand National with consummate ease.

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Senna seizes his chance as Mansell's luck fails



Mansell: wobbly wheel

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN MONACO

FATE intervened. Just when it seemed that Nigel Mansell had a record sixth consecutive grand prix victory in his grasp, he was dealt the most wretched of cards. With seven laps to go, a wheel failure, not Ayrton Senna, overtook him to create one of the most remarkable finishes in the history of motor racing.

Now a contest that had seemed pedestrian, an unchallenged saunter towards Mansell's ambition and the first English world champion's title since James Hunt's in 1976, is suddenly alive and kicking. By a mere two-

tenths of a second Senna took his fourth consecutive victory, but what mental anguish there was for both men.

It had seemed that Mansell had survived, mentally as much as mechanically, until he felt that wretched wheel-bobble coming through the tunnel and knew that misfortune was at hand. Would the 28 seconds by which he led Senna be enough to survive a pitstop?

As he sat looking as hangdog afterwards as a wet spaniel, Mansell tried to come to terms, sportingly, with the twist of fortune in favour of the man sitting beside him. It was, he reflected, the most

important second place of his driving career. When he felt the problem developing, he was halfway from the pits, riding on three wheels, and he lost 10 seconds or more in limping towards rescue.

"As I came out again I saw Ayrton go by," Mansell said wryly. For seven-eighths of the race he had had the race masterfully under control: then came misfortune. "That's Monte Carlo," he said, acknowledging that the bumpy track with loose dirt is a lurking hazard for any leader.

Now came a duel lasting some nine minutes that demanded the ultimate in driving skills from the two men

and gave Monte Carlo and the watching millions on television a finish they will never forget.

The two drivers had been on nerve ends beforehand. This is a track, Mansell had said, with which the driver has a love-hate relationship, a track which you cannot attack, on which you have to hold back, a track where he had never won. In the morning before the race, one or two of those who spoke to him had said he was as nervous as a witch, wondering whether fortune would hold good or whether, as they say, something was going to fall off. And it did.

Yet here he is driving as

well as he has ever done, giving his bid for the title more attention, more concentration than ever before. The man who was the heaviest grand prix driver on the circuit was so busy losing weight over Christmas that the effort had been worth it, he said. He was breathing more easily, sweating less, more mentally alert, more patient.

And that is how it looked as he raced round the houses beneath the cliffs of Monte Carlo for 71 laps, while the tens of thousands sat perched on balconies, roof tops and on the cliff face to the west of the harbour. Senna followed doggedly.

"You have a range in which we operate," Senna says, "and at the upper end you're vulnerable, to errors where there's no room to recover. Last year we were all at the upper limit. This year Nigel has a mechanical advantage that's so big he doesn't need to operate at that upper level. He knows it, so he doesn't expose himself to risks. That's the right way. But believe me, I'm still trying! Trying to maintain my motivation, which is not easy with so much frustration, knowing that I'm driving as well as ever, but that I'm only good enough to be a couple of seconds slower than the fastest car."

Maintaining his own performance had become an end in itself, and this is what he was doing all yesterday afternoon, trying to keep the gap as small as possible, waiting for the moment when Mansell might strike unlooked. And it came. For seven laps, in a car with tyres that now had no grip, he fought every way he knew to hold off the challenge of the man sitting on his tail. With new tyres. This way and that they twisted, but as Mansell acknowledged, Senna was entitled to his tactics. "He was fantastic," said the runner-up, "his car was just too wide!"

Denmark are eager to make their presence felt in Sweden

England could be first to suffer surprise element

FROM STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN LAHTI, FINLAND

THE Denmark goalkeeper yesterday issued a warning to England. Peter Schmeichel believes that his country, whose belated admission to the European championship finals is expected to be confirmed today, could be particularly dangerous opponents in their opening game of the tournament.

It will be in Malmö on June 11 against the England players who became familiar to Schmeichel last season when he kept goal for Manchester United. The Danes are already preparing themselves for the fixture. Fifa and Uefa confirmed in Zurich last night that they will take the place of Yugoslavia who have been expelled as a result of United Nations sanctions imposed on Saturday.

"As long as the UN ban exists, Yugoslavia will be suspended from international football," Sepp Blatter, the Fifa general secretary, said on Saturday in Newport, where he and João Havelange, his president, had met with Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president, to discuss the issue. The ban also puts Yugoslavia's participation in the 1994 World Cup at risk.

Richard Moller-Nielsen, the Danish manager, has been given extra time in which to name his chosen men. Whereas the squads of other finalists had to be submitted to Uefa yesterday, he has until Thursday. His selection may contain neither Jan Molby, of Liverpool, nor

Michael Laudrup, of Barcelona.

Molby needs the team to be built around him, according to Moller-Nielsen, who does not hold him in sufficiently high esteem to reshape the rest of his line-up. The elder and most talented of the Laudrup brothers has recently shown no interest in representing his country.

In spite of their probable absence, several other Danes will be recognised by English audiences. Elstrup played at Luton Town, Sivemark for Manchester United and Kent Nielsen at Aston Villa, for whom he was bought by Graham Taylor, England's manager who also considers Schmeichel to be "a very good attacking goalkeeper".

Schmeichel, who can throw the ball over the half-way line and punt it into the opposition's penalty area, feels that Denmark can surprise their opponents. "If I was in the England squad," he said, "I would think I was at maximum risk against us."

"It wouldn't be surprising if the rest of the finalists don't take us seriously. After all, most of our players are not that well known and the season has only just come to an end. If you are going to surprise anyone, it will be your first opponents because that will be the first time many will have seen us."

Taylor agrees and regrets that France and Sweden, the other nations in England's group, will be granted a con-

venient preview of the Danes.

He foresees them being more compact than Yugoslavia, whose individual brilliance was a cause for now irrelevant concern. He also predicts that the Danes will have been given "a tremendous uplift" by their unexpected invitation to compete in a tournament where little will be expected of them.

He is to have them watched on Wednesday, when they are scheduled to play the Commonwealth of Independent States on the same night that England meet Finland, by Jerry Donaghy, one of his scouts. A video of the match will later be examined by Taylor, who has permitted Seaman, his reserve goalkeeper, to stay at home rather than travel with the squad as planned.

Interest in Denmark has risen so high that the Danish Football Association, inundated with requests for tickets, has had to alter its telephone number in order to be able to continue other duties. Fifteen thousand applications have been made every day, mostly in vain.

The Swedish authorities, unable to retrieve tickets sold to Yugoslavia's supporters, had only 2,000, 2,500 and 500 respectively left for the games against England, France and the hosts. Since Malmö is almost within sight of Copenhagen, many Danes are likely to travel anyway in the hope of dealing in the black market.

Wegerle subdues stunned Republic

United States 3
Republic of Ireland 1FROM A CORRESPONDENT
IN WASHINGTON

JOHN Harkes, the Sheffield Wednesday player, and Roy Wegerle, now with Blackburn Rovers, were instrumental in helping to inflict an embarrassing defeat on the Republic of Ireland. It was the worst result for the Irish since Jack Charlton became manager six years ago.

A maturing United States easily overcame them with three second-half goals in the opening game of the US Cup '92, a four-nation, six-game tournament in which Italy and Portugal also participate. The competition kicked off before a crowd of 35,696 at the RFK Stadium, Washington, in unseasonal pouring rain in the American capital.

But it was not to be the easy victory the Irish, who only last April beat the United States 4-1 at Lansdowne Road, expected. The scoreline remained goalless at half-time, but early in the second half the Irish went ahead when Staunton's corner was met by McCarthy, who headed powerfully past Meola, the United States goalkeeper.

But the United States replied three minutes later through fullback Balboa, who headed the equaliser in the 54th minute.

The introduction of Wegerle, making his debut, at half-time gave the United States a much needed extra dimension and the South African-born player produced a pass in the 73rd minute which led to a superb drive from 20 yards by Ramos.

The Irish, who had begun with a five-man midfield, had been expected to saturate the opposition's attack. Instead, they found themselves chasing back to cover as the United States constantly found gaps down their flank. Two minutes from full-time, Wegerle, with a slick back heel, found Dooley, whose chip beat Phelan and found Harkes striding in to strike the winning goal.

UNITED STATES: A Meola, M Balboa, J Doyle, T Dooley, P Chapman, B Quinn, Harkes, T Ramos (sub: J McCarthy), J Murray (sub: C Henderson), S F Callaghan (sub: E Stuart), P Vermeir (sub: R Wegerle).

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: S Payton, K Moran, C Morris (sub: D Dwyer), W McCarthy, T Phelan, R Houghton, P Keane (sub: A McLoughlin), P McGair, A Townsend, S Staunton (sub: T Coyne), N Quinn.



In line for big prize-money: Glen Day, of the United States, sizes up a putt in the Dunhill British Masters at Woburn yesterday, where he finished equal fourth. Report and results, page 30

SWIMMING

BY CRAIG LORD

Strauss banned after trial race

ASTRID Strauss, who was world champion at 800 metres freestyle in 1986, was banned from competing for six months by the German swimming federation (DSV) yesterday after a drugs test in March had showed her to have levels of testosterone twice the normal for a man.

The ban was expected to be announced today. But Strauss, who obtained a civil court injunction to allow her to race in the Olympic trials at Munich at the weekend, was second in the 800 metres freestyle in a time fast enough to qualify her for the Barcelona Games. To avoid further speculation, the DSV, which would have had to pay a DM 500,000 fine (about £170,000) if it had prevented Strauss from competing at Munich, brought the ban forward. A German official confirmed that Strauss had withdrawn voluntarily from yesterday's 400 metres freestyle after the ban was announced. That race was won by Dagmar Hase, Strauss's training partner under Bernd Henneberg at Magdeburg. Hase also won the 100 and 200 metres backstroke at the trials.

The official added that further court action by Strauss could not be ruled out after "a strong denial" of drugs abuse by Henneberg. Harm Beyer, the head of the federation's drugs panel, said any further court action would be strongly contested. The DSV would not select Strauss for the Olympics. Cl Oliver Lamber qualified to compete in the 200 metres butterfly for Germany at Barcelona in the Munich pool in which, 20 years ago, his father, Werner, won the Olympic bronze medal at 200m freestyle.

Consolation

Badminton: Gill Clark and Julie Bradbury were impressive in defeat in the final of the pre-Olympic tournament yesterday against the world's top pair. The English national women's doubles champions were defeated 15-6, 15-10 by Hwang Hye-Young and Chung So-Young.

Bulls to defend

Chicago Bulls will defend their National Basketball Association title against Portland Trail Blazers in the championship series beginning on Wednesday in Chicago after defeating Cleveland Cavaliers 99-94 in Richfield, Ohio, to win the Eastern Conference finals by 4-2.

IN BRIEF

Rainey ends bad spell

Wayne Rainey, without a win for seven races, squeezed out the narrowest of victories over Michael Doohan in the European 500cc motorcycle grand prix in Barcelona yesterday.

The Californian's Yamaha broke the electronic beam at the finish line a mere 57 thousandths of a second before the Australian's Honda. "It's been such a long time," Rainey acknowledged. "I was beginning to think I was never going to win again. I got my confidence back as the race wore on, and I attacked at the right time."

Close contest

Bowls: Ian Middlemast, a research officer at Bath University, beat his Bath club colleague, Richard Doughty, 21-20 in the final of the Bath Open tournament on Saturday. Ann Burgess, of Kingswood and Hanham, the 1989 women's champion, won her singles final 21-3 against Pat Cooper of Royal Leamington Spa, then, with Cynthia Cloake, added the pairs title.

Penguins happy

Ice hockey: The Pittsburgh goaltender, Tom Barraso, stopped all 27 shots he faced on Saturday to give the Penguins a 1-0 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks and a commanding 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven National Hockey League Stanley Cup finals.

Dutchman first

Triathlon: The European champion from The Netherlands, Ben van Zest, won the inaugural Ironman Lanzarote in the Canary Islands. Janine Daley, of the United States, won the women's race.

Fox comes fourth

Canoeing: Richard Fox, of Britain, finished fourth in the third event of the five-race World Cup slalom series at Nottingham yesterday.

Kerton triumphs

Powerboating: Steve Kerton, of Britain, won the Italian grand prix on Lake Como yesterday and took the overall lead in the world championship.

Play-off victory

American football: Orlandi Thunder beat Birmingham Fire 45-7 in their World League play-off on Saturday.

Auriol on top

Motor rallying: Didier Auriol, of France, roared through rough Greek mountain terrain to win all five special stages and dominate the first leg of the Acropolis Rally yesterday.

Vikings cut Walker

Herschel Walker, the American football running back who was exchanged for five Dallas players and eight draft choices in October 1989, has been cut by the Minnesota Vikings.

THE TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES TES

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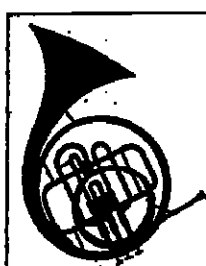
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meilleurs vins
aux meilleurs
prix



LIFE & TIMES

MONDAY JUNE 1 1992

LE FESTIVAL
Nous
choisissons
un festival
des arts



Why we should be batting for France

Stylish, provocative, articulate... the French have a flair distinctively their own. However much the British may mutter, their neighbours can teach them how to combine *joie de vivre* with freedom and generosity, Theodore Zeldin believes

The French are ill-prepared for compliments from the British, 51 per cent of whom have told pollsters that they are totally indifferent to what happens in France. Only 15 per cent say they like the French. Only 17 per cent think the French are intelligent.

When a *Woman's Own* columnist declares: "Oh la la! But I still don't like them..." and it's their fault, they are a nation of petty and pretty crooks... a rude and arrogant people (who) make visitors feel unwelcome... it is as though nothing has changed since 1598 when a *View of France* reproached them for "inconstancy", "capricious humour", "speaking impudently" and being given to "disorderly feeding".

A prejudice against French manners, wrote an 18th-century commentator, "is not confined to the lower ranks in England. It is diffused over the whole nation. Even those who have none of the usual prejudices, who do all manner of justice to the talents and ingenuity of their neighbours, who approve of French manners in French people, yet cannot suffer them grafted in their countrymen."

The problem was that most British tourists set out in search not of the French people, but of a mirage, a fantasy. Tennyson said he spent his happiest holiday walking in France, but what he loved was the unspoiled countryside, not the inhabitants, nor their ideas: "The frightful corruption of their literature makes one fear they are going straight to Hell." The silent roads conjured up in him a vision of the classical world, which he could no longer find in Britain's industrialised landscape. In Brittany, he felt that King Arthur's spirit was still present. But he complained that "it is impossible to find proper food for the children", and was furious at "having to pay nine francs for a rice pudding".

It is the unmodern language of provincial life that still attracts the British most, the old-fashioned markets which treat commerce as a branch of theatre, the small towns and small shops that defy the decrees of progress, the ancient buildings which break the rules of city planners, the homely hotels ruled by characters out of literature, and the vineyards at which it is possible to worship antique cults. Even the TGV arouses our nostalgia for the good old days when trains were punctual. The favourite perfume of British travellers is nostalgia: they prefer to avoid the unpleasant smells, and seldom penetrate into the soulless suburbs to discover what sorts of despair the two nations share. They want above all to be distracted from troubles.

However, France is much more than a playground, or a restaurant. It offers much more than distraction. It is one of those rare countries



whose attitudes have inspired or perturbed virtually the whole world. Of course it has its fair share of crooks and fools, and mannerisms to laugh at, but to stop there is to miss its most important speciality, its recipe for combining *joie de vivre* with freedom and generosity.

In France, first of all, the visitor can get a constantly changing view of what it means to be a human being. Criticising themselves and each other is one of the principal pastimes of the French, ridiculing every aspect of their own existence, questioning everything, probing all human vices. There is no better place to see the human soul bared and dissected, or to eavesdrop on intimate thoughts. This is what literature teaches, and they take literature seriously. Of course, individually and collectively, they prop themselves up with various forms of vanity, but between them there is nothing they do not know about the hallucinations which vanity causes.

Second, in France, every experience is transformed, if at all possible, into an art. The determination to live not just comfortably, but fully, has been a constant stimulus to inventiveness, respecting all the senses and all the faculties. Increasing prosperity has been utilised not to forget the menial details of existence, but on the contrary to raise every act into a skill, so that its performance can be pleasurable and savoured.

Like mathematicians, they aim to solve problems not just logically but above all elegantly. Efficiency is incomplete for them without style. The ambition to enjoy the best of all possible worlds is revealed in the refusal to opt between being an agricultural and an industrial power: in areas where supermarkets have appeared, the number of small *boulangeries* has actually increased by 5 per cent. But of course the passion for refinement can sometimes be paralyzing: they have not discovered how to stop torturing themselves by refining bureaucratic obstruction to the ultimate degree of complexity.

Third, France is more than a nation for it seeks out sympathisers everywhere, appealing to the whole world. Its true passport is culture — a word the British are only gradually ceasing to shiver at. Whereas

Magna Carta made liberty the privilege of free-born Englishmen, the Declaration of the Rights of Man was addressed to all nations. What other country has ever invited foreigners to take the leading role in a national ceremony, as France did when it celebrated the Bicentenary of the Revolution, giving pride of place to the Chinese of Tiananmen Square? *Médécins sans Frontières*, *Médécins du Monde*, are its substitute for a state religion. However, the French have not cured themselves of their susceptibility, when they get upset, to fits of chauvinism, even while preaching universal values. More serious is that they are less successful than they once were at making themselves understood abroad.

Fourth, France relies on conversation, not just to pass the time, but to make the whole of life more exhilarating. In the 18th century as an alternative to the club and the pub, both of which were dominated by men, it developed the literary salon, which was one of the first places where the two sexes could meet on an equal footing, not to gossip but to discuss, elegantly, entertainingly and seriously, all that really mattered to them, in the hope that through the cultivation of politeness and intelligence they would become more decent and beautiful.

Today, it is young, educated women who are leading the conversations which are re-evaluating the notion of the quality of life. Paris has been so fertile as a capital because it is a perpetual conversation between people of virtually all nationalities: the provincial cities are creating new combinations of interest.

Constant discussion of this kind means that there is a strong inducement to give every object and deed an element of repartee or wit or seduction. French cooking would never be as inventive as it has been, were it not for the insistence that food must be discussed and not just eaten. People have become increasingly articulate — a triumph of the educational system, catastrophic though this is in other ways. The empty verbosity which is a frequent by-product needs to be recognised as expressing the unavoidable difficulty of knowing what to say, and in which direction to head.

To enjoy what France has to offer involves participating in their conversation. That means speaking their language, which is surviving better than the French fear. Most people who speak French today do so not because they have to, but because they choose to: going beyond the rudiments picked up at school, they wish to partake in an aesthetic or emotional experience. To be bilingual in French is like being able to swim, to enjoy not only air but also water, where some



movements become more sensuous or more graceful, while others exercise neglected muscles; one emerges feeling more fully alive.

The French are ready to join us in new adventures than we think. A poll has revealed that 82 per cent of them are willing to act as guides to foreign tourists, and 54 per cent would be happy to invite them to lunch. So much for their reputation for unfriendliness. How many readers of *The Times* would be willing to do the same?

We can cooperate in remedying the fact that Britain has the worst provision for pre-school childcare in Europe. Learning a foreign language in infancy is the best training for acquiring others later. I have watched English children sent to a French *maternelle* (kindergarten) in London at the age of three or four become fluently bilingual within two years.

I know a French doctor who, after marrying an Englishman, set up a nursery school in her own home for her children and her neighbours', because she could find nothing suitable locally; gradually expanding, she now has a class of 34 English infants with at least three teachers always present. She is ready to help and train others — of any nationality — to follow her example. The children learn French as though it is a game. It costs the parents no more than an ordinary childminder. It is financially viable, and creates part-time jobs with flexible hours. Bilingual

nursery schools are the most painless way of achieving two objectives simultaneously: preparing ourselves for the feast of languages which Europe is, and helping working parents.

However, although children can be taught to speak, learning to listen is harder. One of Mr Major's first experiences as prime minister was to feel insulted and misled by President Mitterrand, purely as a result of a misunderstanding, of a hint which did not register. Europe needs a lot of practice in listening. Franco-British firms could make a big contribution, and profit from it, for the expansion of curiosity is ultimately the basis of all economic prosperity. Being comfortable in two, or more, civilisations is a way of extending one's freedom. Penetrating the French imagination opens up other doors too, for most cultured French people have curiosities which take one far beyond their own frontiers.

But of course there are people who do not wish to go abroad and it may seem that some will never abandon their xenophobia, that they will always feel the need to hate somebody and that a close neighbour is hated most. But France and Germany have disproved that. Adenauer and de Gaulle were determined to eliminate the bitter memories left by three wars. They invested a vast amount and effort in reconciliation. French towns were twinned with German ones far more frequently

than with British ones. The results have been very impressive. The hostile attitudes of the past are no longer a problem.

In the case of Britain and France there is one obstacle. French popular music has not been appreciated in Britain. There will be no emotional bond until the British grow up loving French songs. Only then will the entente cordiale be ratified by public opinion.

The French may be turbulent partners, but we are a well-matched pair: we stimulate each other, while refusing to be dominated. The Channel Tunnel is the world's largest engagement ring; but few endeavours have been exchanged so far. Those of us who feel that

knowing France has added something invaluable to our lives should not keep our affection for that country hidden. When the tabloid press throws bricksbats across the Channel, we should not just write a billet-doux, but do something about it.

● The author is a Fellow of St Antony's College, Oxford. His book, *The French*, has been a bestseller in Britain and France.

TOMORROW

Stephen Bayley on French style and ordinariness

PLEASE DON'T LOOK AWAY



WITHOUT YOUR HELP I WON'T HAVE A HOME

Penipa is a little girl who lives in an orphanage in Thailand. The Pattaya Orphanage was founded 15 years ago by Father Brennan to care for children without a home, without sight, without hearing, or who are severely handicapped in other ways. The orphanage doesn't just give these little ones a home, it also gives them a better chance in life.

A home, an education, and, most importantly, love have saved Penipa from an awful fate. Your help could stop these being taken away from her again.

Please help Father Brennan in his fight for these children. Every little bit counts. It costs only £15.12 to provide for a child for a month, £181.44 for a whole year.

THANKYOU FOR CARING ENOUGH TO SEND A DONATION

FATHER RAYMOND BRENNAN, C.S.B., PATTAYA ORPHANAGE TRUST, DEPT T1 01/06/92 FREEPOST, LONDON W14 0BB OR CALL 071 603 3023 FOR ACCESS & VISA CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

To give these children a chance in life, please accept my gift of:

£15.12 () £30.24 () £60.48 () £181.44 () Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Reg. Charity No. 286000

Super Mario, money and magic mushrooms

I see that more schoolteachers have raised the alarm about children who get addicted to computer games (the offspring, it would seem, of parents suffering from such inferiority complexes about computers that they can't bring themselves to switch the damn things off by force). Having recently become hosts to Super Mario, his thick brother Luigi and a number of two-dimensional Japanese kamikaze turtles, we can vaguely sympathise.

But only vaguely. Much more pressing is the growing addiction of a pair of working parents to sneaky lunch-hour sessions, late-night brooding battles with Bowser the Dragon and an alarming Mario Identification Syndrome.

There is only one game that does this to us: we are left cold by the war games and tedious football simulations which the children intermittently borrow from friends. But Mario, poor little graphic in his flat hat, has won our hearts. He is not a fighter, whatever the instructions pretend. What he is having is a career, and it reminds us painfully of our own.

Let me tell you about Mario. He sets out across the screen as we all do, terribly small in stature and unarmed against the world. He is menaced by owls and ducks who

want to throw him off the wall (the booklet says they are mushrooms and turtles, but we can't see it). You have to jump on the owls to kill them. But when you jump on the turtle-ducks, they go into their shells and then nip out again when you aren't looking, and push you off the wall.

As in anyone's early career, the knack is to jump up and down a lot, and bang your head on a brick wall until you get some money out of it. Bang the right brick and a magic mushroom blooms and rolls off. If you can catch the mushroom you grow three times as big and become eligible for weapons, such as a fire-flower which enables you to zap owls at a distance, or a raccoon suit which means you can fly, rather half-heartedly and for short distances, by swishing your tail.

On you run, swishing and killing assorted wildlife and rising to exciting new levels of management at which you leap from tree to tree, swim among hostile jellyfish or creep through a claustrophobic, low-ceilinged, windowless castle ruled by a nasty, spitting old dragon.

To defeat the dragon, you have to sneak round behind him on a shaky platform, get an axe and cut the bridge from under his feet so he sinks without trace. To do this

WORKING LIFE

Libby Purves on adult angst caused by child's play at the computer



it helps to have amassed extra lives, which you do by collecting all the money in sight.

The children shriek: "Dad! Get more money! Otherwise you'll never make it to the highest level!" You see what I mean? This is not some infant fairy tale. This is about business life. Robert Maxwell probably played it. Well.

But the really chilling thing is what happens to Mario when he is

swaggering along, walking tall with his fire-flower on his hip, and he falls foul of an unexpected duck or fireproof beetle. Or if he fails to sneak round behind the Maxwell dragon, or puts his trust in a flying platform which then sinks beneath him. He shimmers horribly, and shrinks. Right back to the diminutive, unarmed, trainee status he began with. The children call it "being small", and think no more of it. For adults, it brings on a flood of instant recall of our worst days ever.

Sometimes it only takes a word, or a memo, or a choicely phrased letter of scorn from a reader, or a bad moment at the staff party, and we are small. So we bleed for Mario. Once he is little and demoralised, it only takes one passing owl to knock him right off the screen into early retirement.

All that can save Mario is having amassed the money to buy into a new life. Or occasionally, having the sheer resilience and chutzpah to keep head-bumping brick walls until a new mushroom renews his status.

I think it was Orwell who said that viewed from within, every life is a succession of small defeats. The Japanese invented this game, and they know a thing or two about losing face. So picture us, a pair of poor hacks, veterans of many a

small defeat, sitting over a cup of cold coffee on a bad day, trying to nurse valiant little Mario through his journey. Sometimes we get to level four, firing away and feeling bullish, then miss our stroke and shimmer back into nonentity. Then we leap despairingly at a brick, and out comes the mushroom of opportunity and we jump to grab it — and, too late, notice the ravine at our feet. Sometimes we catch the mushroom, grow big, and still fall down the hole. Never having amassed enough money we are written off, and the screen flashes "Game over".

At which point, the children come in and demand their toy back, pouring scorn meanwhile on our low score, failure to get into World Seven, dearth of money and ignorance of the fact that there was a magic leaf all the time which would have turned us into flying raccoons. They go ahead and demonstrate.

But they are young, and heart-breakingly optimistic. They do not know how our hands grow unsteady on the buttons as we empathise with poor Mario, out there in the harsh working-world which we know and they do not. All we can do is admire their technique, and wish them many magic mushrooms in the future.

CELEBRATED CITY: It is reasonably well known that the Corporation of London owns a notable collection of Victorian paintings saved from the bombed Grafton Gallery. The 83 paintings bequeathed in 1987 by Lord Samuel of Wych Cross, all 17th century, are less known, though they have been described as the greatest art bequest of the century. All the Samuel pictures and many of the rest are included in "The Celebrated City".

MAGNETIC: There has not been a significant show of the great Belgian Surrealist in this country since the retrospective at the Tate in 1965. The South Bank Centre is now repairing the omission with a collection of some 150 works, including most of Magritte's most famous paintings as well as his collages, sculptures and painted books. Magritte's strange world of ordinary objects cut away from their ordinary surroundings and illuminated with a straight-faced Zen humour is well displayed.

THUNDERBOLTS F.A.B.: Scott Tracy, Captain Scarlett, Lady Penelope and the Mysteron in the play enjoyed by many Anderson's cult television series of the 1960s. This production, which celebrates the 25th anniversary of that original series, is touring the country. Grand Theatre, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton (0902 282 120). Tonight, Sat, 7.30, Fri, 8pm, 8.30pm.

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Heather Aston

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THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House full, returns only
Some seats available
Seats at all prices

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NEW RELEASES

THE ADJUSTER: (18) Atom Egoyan's usual tale of voyeurism, fantasy and displaced persons: visually seductive but hollow. Eas Kosas, Arnette Khanjan. Metro (071-437 0757).

THE MAIBO KINGS: (15) Smartly mounted but simplistic version of Oscar Wilde's novel about Cuban musicians in New York. Armand Assante, Antonio Banderas; director, Armand Assante. MGM Fulham Road (071-332 0568). MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148). MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031). UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

MIDNIGHT MAN: (PG) Embarrassed backstories (Sean Connery) and cry-baby assistant (Francesca Bracco) struggle to find cancer cure up the Amazon. As bad as it sounds. Director, John McTiernan. Barbican (071-638 8811). MGM Chelsea (071-732 5050). Odeon Kensington (071-732 5050). Odeon Kensington (071-732 5050). Marble Arch (071-732 5050). Screen on the Green (071-732 5050). UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

RUBY 115: Danny Aiello as the small-time gangster who shot Lee Harvey Oswald. A same film compared to "JFK", but good performances. Director, John Dahl. Odeon West End (0426 91574).

CURRENT

BASIC INSTINCT: (18) San Francisco detective Michael Douglas and kick-ass murder suspect Sharon Stone in a sordid psycho-sexual rollercoaster. Director, Paul Verhoeven.

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and where to catch them (with the symbol *) on release across the country

DEEP BY TEMPTATION: (18) Succubus entices a theology student. A seductive, all-black vampire play from writer-director-star James Bond II, with Michael York, Michael York, and a wonderful aural collage of 1950s Britain. Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

MEMBERS OF AN INVISIBLE MAN: (18) Cooked (aka agent) humiliated in an invisible Chevy Chase. A lurid semi-comedy with good special effects. Director, John Carpenter, with Daryl Hannah, Sam Neill.

THE LONG DAY CLOSING: (12) Terence Davies's powerful evocation of childhood's lost paradise. With Leigh McCormack, Maynard Vane, and a wonderful aural collage of 1950s Britain. Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE: (15) Psycho-rummy Rebecca De Mornay's motherly rage in a squalid, claustrophobic thriller with Robert De Niro, Annette Bening, director, Curtis Hanson.

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DANCE: PREVIEW

Flighty daughter of the revolution

John Percival examines the revolutionary birth and London connections of a work at Sadler's Wells tomorrow night

As June 1789 rumbled to a close, tempers were high and still rising all over France. The Estates-General meeting at Versailles had already defied Louis XVI and declared themselves a National Assembly. Within a few days the king would order his Hungarian, German and Swiss troops to seize Paris, and see them driven off by an improvised citizens' army. One prime cause of the crisis was the price of bread, so high that ordinary people despaired of feeding their families.

Was this the moment to be preparing a comedy ballet set idyllically among the wheat harvest? That is what Jean Dauberval was doing in Bordeaux. He called the work, premiered on July 1, *Le Ballet de la Paille*, the ballet of the straw, after the wheat sheaves under which the hero was smuggled into his lover's home for a rendezvous.

The title under which we know it today, *La Fille mal gardée*, was given about two years later when he mounted it at the Pantheon Theatre, London. Far from being swept into oblivion by the revolution, Dauberval's cheerful, romantic little ballet had already begun to conquer the world.

You could not imagine a more unlikely inspiration than the one recounted for it. One walking one day, Dauberval felt a need to relieve his bladder, and the readily available place was against the wall of a shop. A print in the shop window caught his eye: a woman beating her daughter, discovered dishevelled in a farm shed, while her young man makes a hurried escape. These figures became transformed in his imagination into some of ballet's most famous characters.

In one sense, the events of the French Revolution seem to have left no reflection in the ballet's plot. But in another, it was one of the most revolutionary ballets ever made. The spirit of the time had introduced new tender, sentimental feelings into literature: it had made the French look for their

The presence and personality of Cécile Ousset determined the entire content and mood of the English Chamber Orchestra's concert at the Barbican on Thursday. The French pianist has an all-pervading *joie de vivre* about her which, given the right repertoire, surges through the orchestra and out into the auditorium.

So it was on Thursday in a programme which began with Saint-Saëns's eccentric little *Second Symphony* and ended with Massenet's *Scènes pittoresques*. Fauré's *Ballade* in F sharp, originally (and still for much of the time) a solo piece, grew out of the salon to which it is sometimes confined and stretched its muscles gracefully.

Where the piece is tempted to sit on its harmonic haunches, Jeffrey Tate drew a forward-moving, humming warmth from the strings; where the

NO DOUBT about it: there is something very suitable about seeing Strindberg in a Hampstead ex-mortuary. More fitting, certainly, than the Queen Elizabeth Hall, where the play ran in tandem with Arbre Reimann's operatic version in 1989. There an ingenious production attempted to shrink antiseptic space to achieve the requisite intimacy. Here the impact of Strindberg's original 150-seater is reproduced with the bonus of smoke and the smell of sizzling after the cripplingly rubber-tipped crutch was discarded carelessly into a footlight on opening night.

The fear that this self-styled chamber work might turn into *Götterdämmerung* was finally allayed. Besides, Jonas Frlay's production for the Sturdy Beggars company provides enough black comedy for more modern comparisons to present themselves: gro-

tesque servants, diabolic invalids, mad children and insane parents evoke the Munsters or the Addams Family.

Andrew Marsland's design makes a brave stab at expressionist menace in the small acting area, with the irregular panels of a Japanese screen and the distorted perspective of the cupboard where the colonel's lady lies because her eyes cannot stand the light and she thinks she's a parrot. ("Maybe she is," our informant adds darily.)

A young student is taken up by the rich, wheelchair-bound Hummel and is introduced to the mysterious house-

Flighty daughter of the revolution



Real, not artificial: Ballet du Rhin company members in *La fille mal gardée*, the first "modern" ballet

own heroes to replace the antique Greeks and Romans previously held up as examples of conduct. Dauberval followed the same course in his choreography.

He had begun his career with mythological or antique subjects, but moved to themes nearer to his audience's heart. After all, the quality that made actors (even Garrick) some of his keenest admirers was the vivid directness of his story-telling and his acting. In *La Fille* he found his own original plot and characters who would appeal to audiences throughout the world and across centuries.

Recently we have known them only through new productions, above all the one Frederick Ashton made for the Royal Ballet. But at Sadler's Wells this week the Ballet du Rhin shows a reconstruction of the original. In one sense it will look very simple and old-fashioned compared with Ashton's, but it will also reveal how completely Dauberval had set the characters and story in place.

CONCERTS

Spirits of joy and hope

orchestral soloists were granted a part of the piano's melody as if by favour. They were rewarded further by a lush bed of accompanimental figuration.

For César Franck's *Variations symphoniques*, the piano seemed to become a different instrument. A bright, chill tone sang out the theme's dying fall, and a harder edge shaped its subsequent variations. The formidable Ousset leaves from the keys and she and Tate egged each other on to the ebullient final pages.

THEATRE

Weird and wonderful

The Ghost Sonata

New End, Hampstead

hold opposite: a col-
on unmasked as a
fraud, his psittacine
wife who resembles
a mummy, their flower-fixated daughter, a twitching old woman, a baron with a faint look of Dr Goebbels, and a butler wonderfully combining the humorous with the grimly foreboding.

Hummel peels away pretences and illusions while the student and the daughter are spared as innocents. Tables are turned when Hummel himself is revealed as a vampire emotional parasite, sucking the life from those around him. And even the young couple finally emerge as rotten,

infecting by the miasma of evil and a corrupt heritage.

The nine-strong cast, outrageously big for fringe theatre, is beautifully drilled in this hallucinatory romp that like all fairy stories and all nightmares can change emotional gear from sunny to sinister with the malice of a swivel of a character's eye. The company boasts some wonderfully weird-looking actors: Michael Woodwood's elongated butler, Erik Fuller's baron, Karen Maskill doubling as a monstrous cook and a tie-die Miss Havisham, while the squawking of Elisabeth McGrath marks her out as the Percy Edwards of the fringe theatre. But the whole group captures the play's essence: an ominous dream of doomed humanity brought on by too much *strömling* and *smultron*.

MARTIN HOYLE

This is, in reality, the earliest "modern" ballet, getting completely away from the formal, artificial conventions formerly prevailing and speaking to its spectators as directly as any play.

Dauberval's London production of the ballet was only one of many staged during the next few years by him, his pupils and his imitators all over Europe and even as far as America. With time, *La Fille* acquired new choreography by many hands, and new music too: not just the score by Honoré (supplemented by chunks of Donizetti) from which John Lanchbery worked for Ashton's version, but also a completely different one by Hertel.

Nobody knows who put together the music Dauberval used: it is a collection of pretty tunes, even with some singing by the dancers. The ballet historian Ivor Guest discovered it in the library at Bordeaux years ago, but it is another copy found in Stockholm that made the present reconstruction possible, because it dates from 1792 and has

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Richard Morrison reports from Birmingham on the world premiere of an opera about the life and death of Steve Biko

Vision fails to match subject

No opera called *Biko* should lack action. Consider the events of the now infamous 26 days that brought Steve Biko to his death in 1977: the roadblock and arrest on trumped-up charges; the "interrogation" by South African police which left him brain-damaged; and then the merciless 700-mile drive to Pretoria, with the critically injured Biko manacled and naked on the floor of the vehicle. That finished him off at the age of 31.

Remember, too, what went before. Biko's Gandhi-like charisma apparently mesmerised black rallies and white opponents alike. He was a dove in a land of mean-spirited hawks. And consider how Biko's death and its cover-up has acquired an emblematic power in the years since. How might a composer with a genius for portraying sadism — a Britten or a Puccini — have tackled the interrogation scene? What tragic dimension might Shostakovich have found in this story of a visionary crushed?

The sad thing about Priti Paintal's tuneless but desperately pedestrian *Biko* (premiered at the Birmingham Rep on Friday) is that its failings will be used as a weapon by those who argue that opera houses have no business making statements about contemporary politics: that they should stick to star-crossed lovers. This is nonsense. Easily the most gripping British opera of the 1980s was Mark-Anthony Turnage's *Cry Freedom*, in which the young composer actually bearded up Steven Berkoff's original play into a scalding excoriation of Thatcherite Britain. And the most popular new opera of the last decade — John Adams's *Nixon in China* — also demonstrated vividly how music-drama can be ripped from yesterday's headlines.

Nixon in China benefited, however, both from the wry detachment with which Adams and his librettist Alice Goodman handled their subject-matter, and from utilising all the resources of grand opera, including choruses and ballets. *Biko* has neither of these advantages.

For a start, Paintal and her librettist, Richard Fawkes, clearly rank their subject only a rung or two lower than Jesus Christ on the ladder of goodness. Any flaws in

their idol — his energetic extra-marital activities, for instance — are glossed over. Fawkes ominously writes in the programme that "to concentrate on those would have been to give the opera the wrong emphasis". Wrong? Politically incorrect, perhaps, but it might have made for livelier drama than scene after scene of the saintly Mrs Biko crooning about how much she misses Steve when he's away.

Donald Woods, the white journalist who befriended Biko, is also glowingly portrayed — not surprisingly, since (as with Richard Attenborough's film, *Cry Freedom*), *Biko* closely follows Woods's version of events. Other characters simply become singing clichés: two truncheon-happy policemen; the hot-headed black activist who thinks Biko's non-violent way is too soft; the repressive Justice Minister.

Such caricatures are perhaps inev-

'At some stage in Biko's evolution an experienced voice should have pointed out that the message didn't fit the medium'

itable in opera. There are plenty of cardboard villains in the 19th century repertoire. A more serious problem with *Biko* is its bulk, or rather its lack of it. It is devised as a chamber opera: just seven singers, twelve instrumentalists (including bongo-heavy percussion); minimal set. Yet if ever a subject cried out for the big-opera treatment, it is black Africa's struggle for power. Deprived of anything showing the wider context, the opera never establishes Biko as a mighty figure. It is like playing *Henry V* without the Agincourt scenes.

Comparison with *Cry Freedom*'s epic sweep is unfair though Biko's authors do encourage it by focusing on the same incidents. *Biko* may be

more fairly compared with *Lost in the Stars*, Kurt Weill's passionate 1950 treatment of Alan Paton's *Cry the Beloved Country*. Weill's black protagonists also engaged in discussions about whether words or violence would bring about quicker change. But Weill interpolated magnificent choruses that established the crucial background: of a vast populace, simmering close to rebellion.

In fairness, Paintal and Fawkes had chamber-opera conditions imposed upon them. *Biko* is a product of The Garden Venture, the Royal Albert Hall's "experimental arm". The piece began in workshop, and was slowly developed into a full staging. That process is admirable in theory: it allows a composer who is inexperienced in opera, or even openly unsympathetic towards (in Paintal's words) "the kind of thing that goes on in big opera houses", to bring something fresh to the form.

But at some stage in *Biko*'s evolution an experienced voice should have pointed out that the message did not fit the medium. After all, the only point of the Royal Opera being involved in experimental work is to utilise its supposed practical expertise.

Even so, Paintal and Fawkes seem perversely inclined to waste what resources they do have on inessentials. Why begin with a kind of hymn to the African sunrise, or spend five minutes — at the very point when the temperature should have been rising towards Biko's last arrest — with a singalong party scene? Conversely, where was the music to accompany the police wrecking a township classroom? The composer who leaves this — Act 1's climax — accompanied only by grunts on bassoon and clarinet is not out for operatic life.

That is a pity. Paintal's musical style is fresh: buzzing with syncopated repetitions in the instrumental parts (admirably played by the Endymion Ensemble under Timothy Lole), and direct and lyrical in its vocal lines. Paintal has acquired John Adams's grating trick of repeating inessential words, yet her score is user-friendly and vividly redolent of Africa. The problem is that the same, jolly beat tends to go on and on, whether Biko is being clubbed senseless, or Woods is



Steve Biko (Daniel Washington) questioned by Stephen Austin and Gerard Quinn (rear)

waxing lyrical on the subject of civil rights.

Wilfred Judd's staging has its mystifying moments. Why, in Paintal's powerful final ensemble, do two stagehands start clearing away chairs at the back of the stage, like caretakers in a hurry to lock up the village hall? But the cast is strong

right down the line: Daniel Washington immensely dignified (if a little middle-aged) as Biko; Damon Evans finding some much needed fire in the belly as the hot-headed activist; Stephen Richardson in firm bass voice as Woods; Hyacinth Nicholls affecting as Mrs Biko, and Stephen Austin and Gerard Quinn

suitably thuggish as the police. Such a fine cast only increases the sense of an opportunity gone begging. There is still a great opera to be written about South Africa.

● *Biko* is at Birmingham Rep (021-236 4455) until Saturday, then at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, London W6 (081-748 3354) June 10-14

TELEVISION REVIEW: OPERA

Powerful music, fussy pictures

prisoner (and spoken) for Kathie Tyson as the excluded eternal feminine.

The texts, grouped into seven short movements, are taken from Turnage's own conversations with prisoners and from the works of writers including Albie Sachs, Tom Newell, Ho Chi Minh and Zeno, and the most striking success on a first hearing is the unforced fluency of the English word-setting, continuing a grand tradition from Purcell to Britten and now beyond. And not just fluency, but detail too: "the shock of the slammed" (barely

perceptible pause), "door" was one of countless telling effects.

Turnage has a reputation for writing violent music; there are, of course, anger and violence here, but the lasting impression is of an aching melancholy, that is conveyed through the haunting beauty of the scoring for chamber forces as much as through the vocal line. There is some effective *melodrama*, an attractive bluesy setting of "Sleep on, brother," and a nice moment when gaudy enables Henry to sing in close harmony with himself.

Above all, there is extraordinary concentration of musical thought in the service of clarity and immediacy of communication, and a lyricism that seems peculiarly English. We have reached the stage, thanks in no small part to young composers such as Turnage, when that is no longer a potential insult.

But oh, what a busy visual realisation. There is a tendency on television nowadays — and not just in arts programmes — for no shot, no sound-bite, to last

for more than about ten seconds, lest viewers be bored to extinction. Here we flew in herently from shot to shot, from colour to black and white and back again; scale was expressively distorted again and again; an alter ego ("me in a younger life") popped in and out; not a line, not an image, was left to make its own effect, and some of the images — "rapturous" simulated intercourse, Tyson in a pink ballgown Julie Andrews-ing over a green meadow — verged on the kitsch.

"Beyond these walls I trav-

el", followed by a passage for instruments alone, of course invited fantasy, but we were given a travelogue of *National Geographic* proportions with sailing ships, mountaineers, the Taj Mahal, assorted wars, a leopard, a tarantula — enough already.

All of it compromised the dignity and passion of Henry's central performance, and diluted the effect of the genuinely powerful images: the black iconography on the cell wall, the smashing of clocks ("killing time"), the gruesome imaginings of suicide and assault. Turnage has written a music-theatre, or more properly music-television, piece of spellbinding impact: if only it had been left to speak for itself.

RODNEY MILNES

RECORDS: OPERA

Seductive sounds from the harem

Bruno Weil sounded an accomplished Mozartian at the start of the Glyndebourne season with *Coste fan tutte*, the first opera he had conducted in Britain. That impression is confirmed by *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* (Sony SK 48053, 2 CDs), his first Mozart opera on record. On the surface the approach is brisk and businesslike, with plenty of Turkish glitter in the brief overture. But Weil is well able to handle languor as well as clangour, especially in the accompaniment to Belmonte's arias, where the strings of the Vienna Symphony are out to show that they are no second fiddles to their grander colleagues in the Vienna Philharmonic.

Weil keeps the exuberance of this early work and is careful not to pile over-weighty emotions on what is no more than a *Singspiel*. The same goes for his male cast. Kurt Streit is outstanding as Belmonte, with a flow of creamy tone, in particular in "Wenn der Freude". Here his dignity and control recall Peter Schreier, probably the best of the postwar Belmontes (on Karl Böhm's *Entführung* on DG, the best of the existing CD versions).

For once Pedrillo (Robert Gambill) has a slightly darker tenor than his master and does not overdo things. Nor does the watchful Osmin of Günther Misenhardt, who becomes a fool only when the infidel plies him with drink.

The two ladies are slightly less good. Cheryl Studer has been singing Constanze in Vienna, but it does still not sound the ideal role for her, especially in the Act 1 aria where some of the top notes are uncomfortably pinched. "Marmen aller Arten", fearlessly delivered, is much more to the Studer taste. Elzbieta



Cheryl Studer: not ideal

Szymka's Blonde could do with a bit more fizz. The German spoken dialogue has been cut to a modest quantity and is delivered, thank goodness, by the singers themselves and with great expertise, despite the fact that three are American. This is testimony either to what a few years of working in Germany can do or to the example of that non-pari among Pasha Selims, Michael Heltai. Top class sound: a very lively set.

Ezio Pinza was reigning bass at New York's Met for over 20 years and a Mozart specialist. A little surprisingly that composer is unrepresented in the collection Pinza: *Airs d'opéras* (EMI CDH 7 64253 2). But there is much to savour in these recordings made between 1923 and 1927.

Pinza had extraordinary breath control. In an aria such as "Cinta di fiori" (*Puritani*) his lungs seem to have some secret, secondary source of supply. He enjoyed showing off his bottom notes in "Old Nick" roles, such as the Mephistopheles of Gounod and Boito. But his greatest quality was the majesty in the voice, at its best in Verdi, with Fiesco's "Il lacerato spirito" (*Boccacaglia*) and Procula's "O tu Palermo" (*Vespri*).

JOHN HIGGINS

MUSIC: INTERVIEW

Following his mind's musical map

From the outside, at least, it would be easy to cultivate a dislike of Ryuichi Sakamoto. Framed by a fashion poster on the side of a London bus, his pristine lips pout unsmilingly, a parody of sinister oriental camp. Sakamoto's last album was entitled simply *Beauty*, and the artfully lit cover photo left no doubt about whose pulchritude was being referred to. "You've brought a photographer?" the PR lady asks. "Well just hold on — I'd better tell Ryuichi's personal makeup artist."

But, as the audience at his concert during last year's Japan Festival discovered, Sakamoto in person could not be further from the preening exquisite of the album covers. The makeup is imperceptible, the designer clothes understated. His English, even when he sings, is halting — he refers at one point to the "joyness" his music gives him; the word "musician" comes out sounding like "magician". Sakamoto is 40, looks 25 and has the vulnerable good manners of a shy teenager.

"One day at school," he remembers, "the teacher asked us what profession we wanted to be. I wrote: 'Nothing'. Even now I don't want to belong to any society or country or group."

Defying categorisation has become a full-time job for Sakamoto. He has acted alongside Tom Conn and Peter O'Toole, published dialogues with the Japanese philosopher Shozo Omori, made avant-garde videos with the Korean artist Nam June Paik.

Ryuichi Sakamoto, Japanese film actor, composer, author and pop star, talks to Richard Lloyd Parry about image, culture clashes and his new album, *Heartbeat*

and pop albums with former Beach Boy Brian Wilson.

Even Sakamoto's music, the one constant in his career, has manifested itself in extremes. Since graduating from Tokyo University with a degree in classical composition, he has toured the world with an early Eighties techno-pop trio (Yellow Magic Orchestra), written Oscar-winning film music (*The Last Emperor*) and composed the soundtrack for a computer video game. If "sampling" — the appropriation and re-use of diverse musical phrases — has become the musical practice of the post-modern age, Sakamoto is its living embodiment.

With a new single, "Heartbeat", released today (the album of the same name is out on June 29), his prodigiously eclectic career is busier than ever. Spring was spent putting a soundtrack to the remake of *Withering Heights* (starring Ralph Fiennes). Later in the year he will take the lead in a new movie by Nagisa Oshima, who gave him his first screen role as the splenetic POW camp commander in *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence*. "The film," he explains, "is about a Japanese actor called Hayakawa who was very famous in Hollywood before and during the war. He was a very

rare case because no one used Japanese actors internationally."

Few do even now, and for Sakamoto it is a welcome opportunity to escape the cinema stereotype he found himself landed with. "Both in *Merry Christmas* and *The Last Emperor*, I played soldiers who were bad guys. Because the image of Japanese people is so poor in the West there's rarely a good role for a Japanese. It's because of history, which I can do nothing about. But it's good to play an ordinary person."

Before then he returns to Spain to perform his musical accompaniment to the opening of the Barcelona Olympics — an ideal project for one whose music self-consciously expresses the Olympic ideals of Hope, Co-operation and International Brotherhood.

Occasionally it falls prey to their blandness, too. The weaker of Sakamoto's 12 solo albums sound like nothing so much as expensive airport music, aimless doodles of instrumentation and texture. His best tracks, like *Forbidden Colours*, the haunting theme to *Merry Christmas*, written with David Sylvian, fuse the composer's theoretical con-

cerns with a keen pop sensibility.

Beauty, released in 1990, illustrates his extraordinary eclecticism at its best. Over ten months he shuttled across the globe amassing tapes of more than 50 musicians from four continents, in his New York studio. Armed with drumming from Burkina Faso, sarshin from Japan, siars and tablas from India and an arsenal of synthesizers and sampling equipment, Sakamoto produced an album of world music in which the effect is one not of displacement, but harmony.

On *Beauty*, Islamic wailing blends with funk, Okinawan folk songs trill above Mahlerian strings and jungle drumming. "I have found a map in my mind," Sakamoto says. "I call it a cultural map. I always find similarities between different cultures."

For example, domestic Japanese folk-pop music sounds like Arabic music to me — I'm talking about vocal intonation and vibration. In my mind Bali is beside New York, and beside New York there's Tokyo, and maybe Hamburg, or wherever. That's the way I've been working."

It is tempting to relate this to Sakamoto's nationality and the topsy-turvy pastiche of ancient and futuristic, sacred and vulgar, of modern Tokyo. "When people ask me about Japanese culture I tell them it is Honda cars and Comedies des Garçons," he says. "The way I use influence in my music may be similar to what the Japanese car industry is



Sakamoto: "I don't want to belong to any society"

doing: taking the best elements from German, Italian, French, English cars to make something better."

The new album, *Heartbeat*, is more danceable, less ethnic, but no less cerebral. Its appeal, once again, is to an archetype: that of the child in the womb whose existence — warm, dark, measured perpetually by the mother's beating heart — is, Sakamoto believes, replicated by the rhythms of contemporary club music.

"The kick drums of House music sound like heartbeats," he suggests, "and it reminds us of the time we were in the mother's body. The whole world — the planet itself — is getting worse and worse, more dangerous and uncomfortable. Especially New York: it's very aggressive, people are rude, it's noisy, violent. We want to go back to our mother's body: the best, safest, most protected environment we have ever had."

ARTS BRIEF

Payned smiles

LIVERPOOL'S Festival of Comedy and the Mersey River Festival are to be combined as a ten-day event, called "Liverpool — 21st Century", under the auspices of the Merseyside Development Corporation. The new festival, running from June 11 to 21, features Ruby Wax, Alan Bleasdale and Rory Bremner. According to the MDC, the idea is to present Liverpool as an "attractive place to work and live, into the 21st century". Just what aspect of life and death Cynthia Payne, the former brothel madame of Streatham, is to represent is not clear, but she is taking part.

Jersey off

TELEVISION'S popular Jersey policeman Bergerac may have given up the detective game, but the actor who portrays him, John Nettles, is not giving up the acting game. He is returning to the Royal Shakespeare Company, where he played many leading roles between 1976-1982. He will play Leontes in the Stratford production of *The Winter's Tale* (from June 25), Caesar in *Antony and Cleopatra* and Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

Lynn's in

LYNN HARRELL, the cellist, is to succeed Sir David Lumsden as principal of the Royal Academy of Music. Harrell, who has held the international chair in cello studies at the academy since 1987, succeeds as the 13th principal in September next year, upon Sir David's retirement.

Last chance...

IN THE past, Bellini's last opera *I Puritani* has often been regarded as fodder for canny fanciers, with a plot that is improbable even by the standards of early 19th century opera. Andrei Serban's adult Royal Opera production and Daniele Gatti's searching conducting should have put paid to that, helped by Giuseppe Sabbatini's brilliant singing of the hazardous tenor role. Sumi Jo takes over from June Anderson as Elvira at the last performance at Covent Garden (071-240 1066) on Thursday.

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When buying wine, says Robin Young, it is best to ignore the duty-free shops and head for the nearest supermarket

Go and seize them by the neck

Buying wine in France is very different from buying it in Britain. The French do not buy wine as we do. That is because they are well habituated to drinking so much more of it. For all that we are drinking several times as much as we did a couple of decades ago, and they have heeded medical advice to the extent of restraining their intake quite considerably. But the average Frenchman still disposes of six to seven times as many bottles as his British counterpart.

For those on such a scale, wine is nothing special. It is mostly to be fetched from the same shops and in the same basket with the other staple groceries. Most groceries, *charcuteries* and general food shops sell wine as a matter of course and great volumes are sold through supermarkets and hypermarkets.

If the French do make a special effort purchasing wine it is likely to be by joining a mail-order wine club, or by buying direct from a wine producer in some favourite wine producing region. The first need not concern us, but the second is by far the most adventurous, enterprising and enjoyable way of buying wine and I shall make that the subject of a separate article tomorrow.

Today, though, the object is to help those who are on short trips to France, perhaps not visiting wine producing regions, and without time to hunt down and bargain for growers' best *cuvées*.

Only those on the speediest of business trips should pay any attention to wines in the duty-free shops. While some ferry companies have recently improved their wine selection, and Hoverspeed has unveiled a carefully-chosen new range, the duty-free choice remains limited and the prices barely advantageous. You can usually save a pound or two on bottles of champagne, but still wines are likely to be more expensive than in French supermarkets.

At Roissy, as an extreme case, bottles of the *premier cru* Graves Chateau Haut-Brion 1984 were recently selling at 380 francs. I saw the same wine in the branch of Euromarché at Porte Maillot in Paris, on my way to the airport, at 199 francs, not much more than half the duty-free shop's price. From Harvey's of Bristol it costs £29.10.

On the other hand the plonk one drinks with pleasure on holiday may not slip down half so easily at home. The crisp Gros Plant gulped gratefully on a beach in Brittany is quite likely to seem gratingly harsh when drunk back in Britain. The risks are higher with cheap white wines, whose chilling may help disguise their faults, than with light and fruity reds.

A simple time and money saving strategy, therefore, is to head to the

supermarket and grab maximum permissible quantities of the cheapest red *vin de pays* on special offer and, for a treat, an allowance of the cheapest champagne. Cheapest hypermarket champagnes at present are 68.50 francs (just over £7), where there are only quite limited supplies in Britain available under £10.

French wine shops and supermarkets mark-ups generally tend to be rather heavier than those imposed by their price competitive British counterparts, so best buys for still wines are likely to be at around 15 to 25 francs a bottle. For that you should get a thoroughly enjoyable wine which would cost about £4 in Britain.

Quality is not outstanding in most French supermarkets, but it is usually a waste of time looking for a good specialist wine merchant. They are so thin on the ground that the *Guide Hachette des Vins*, an authoritative

950-page annual wine directory on sale in most French bookshops, finds only a couple of dozen which it considers worth listing outside Paris. Of those, Jeanne d'Arc in the Rue Jeanne d'Arc in Rouen is the one closest to Britain.

Other specialist shops and wine warehouses, such as the Cave du Roy in the Rue de la Tour Carrière in Cherbourg and Le Chais, at 67 Boulevard Jacquard and 40 Rue de Strasbourg in Calais, offer reasonable value, but no exceptional bargains.

For most cross-Channel wine hunters it will be much easier to descend upon a branch of France's solitary chain of specialist wine shops, *Nicolas*, or one of their franchise holders among the local grocery stores. *Nicolas* move vast quantities of wine and their bottlings are dependable, though not thrilling, in quality. The prices are not extravagant and are fixed throughout the whole chain, which ensures everyone a fair deal.

More adventurous, and potentially more rewarding, is to identify the best *épicerie fine* or *charcuterie* in the neighbourhood, and to ask the proprietor for his recommendation. French shopkeepers with a reputation for good food take care to sell equally tasty wines. That is the way I found an exceptionally fine Anjou Rouge at a bargain 24 francs from Claude Olivier, 18 Rue St-Jacques in Dieppe, and similarly good bottles chez Lefèvre at 127 Rue Victor Hugo, in Le Havre.

The best ranges among supermarkets and hypermarkets are kept by Auchan and E. Leclerc. Auchan has Channel-side stores at Boulogne on Route Nationale 42, Dunkerque on Route Nationale 40, in Le Havre, and at Cherbourg's Centre Commercial du Cotentin.

Their recent special offers have included some very covetable bar-



Take your pick: workers harvesting white Chasselas grapes in a vineyard at St Andelin near Pouilly, in the Loire Valley

gains in 1985 and 1989 clarets, where buy, for example, Chateau L'Angelus 1985 at 160 francs (compared with a British merchant's price of £25) or Chateau Nenin 1989 at 95 francs (compared with £14.99 at Oddbins).

Leclerc has stores strategically sited for British shoppers at Outreau on the Boulevard Industriel de Liège toward Paris out of Boulogne, at Neuville-les-Dieppe near Dieppe (follow signs to Martin-Elgise), in Caen's Rue Lefranc, St Malo's Boulevard des Déportés, and at Quervilleville, near Cherbourg. Leclerc is every bit as good as Auchan, both for quality and price, for Bordeaux wines. Earlier this year, for example, I found them selling Chateau Haut-Brion 1983 under £38 a bottle and Chateau Leoville-Las Cases 1986 at the equivalent of just over £23. These top-class clarets are difficult

to find with specialist wine merchants in Britain, and even at auction Leclerc's prices would be difficult, if not impossible, to beat.

As at Auchan, it is often possible to buy whole boxes of such excellent clarets, not all of them in the lofty price ranges I have been quoting, in their original wooden cases. You may find similar opportunities in other French hypermarkets, too. To check prices it makes sense to have a good British retailer's wine list with you in France, and Oddbins is the one I would choose.

One thing about the French hypermarket selections is that they are not dominated, as British supermarkets tend to be, by second label wines and off-vintages. The classified growths whose prices I have just been quoting come from good to exceptionally good vineyards, and they had plenty of peers for company on the shelves at both

Leclerc and Auchan, though fewer at Mammouth.

There are certainly wines of the off-vintages 1984 and 1987 to be found as well. The best buys here are 1987s, especially those from Graves and Pomerol which, though lightweight and not for overlong keeping, are delicious, charming and under-priced.

All the hypermarkets are also likely to have special offers of *petits châteaux* clarets from Bordeaux's less famous properties, making it quite possible to find acceptable claret for as little as 12 francs. Otherwise my standard advice for hypermarket wine shopping is to seize bottles of any Alsace wine showing a neckband advertising the fact that it has won a medal at the Colmar wine fair.

● Tomorrow: buying wine direct from the vineyard.

WINE ALLOWANCES

EACH adult is allowed five litres of still wine bought duty-paid within the EC, instead of only two if the wine is bought duty-free. The allowance for fortified or sparkling wine (an alternative to spirits: you cannot have both) goes up to three litres from two, or can be traded for a similar quantity of still table wine instead. That means each adult who does not bring in any spirits is allowed to import up to eight litres of wine bought duty-paid in France of which three litres (four bottles) can be fortified or sparkling. From the beginning of next year returning Britons will be allowed to import 120 bottles of wine without having to pay the new excise duty of 95p a bottle.

THIS WEEK

BELIEVE it or not, most Times readers — hundreds of thousands of people — will visit France over the next three months. Our aim is to make you the best informed, best read and best prepared travellers on French soil this summer. That's why, starting today, we begin 12 weeks of extensive coverage of life across the Channel. The Times' Passport to France will form the complete summer guide to travelling in France.

This week, and every week, leading writers will explore different aspects of French culture.

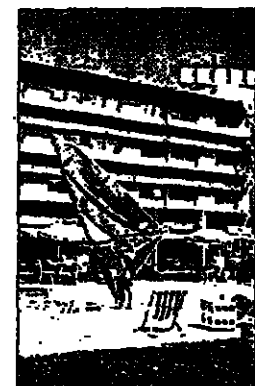
Tomorrow, Stephen Bayley celebrates the French ability to enjoy the ordinary things in life to the full. On Wednesday, Frances Bissell, the Times cook, brings a quarter century's experience of French gastronomy to bear on our neighbour's fabled food. On Thursday, Jan Morris invites you to step into your metaphorical convertible and motor through leafy squares and tree-lined avenues in a journey into the heart of France.

On your way, you might like to stop off at one of the towns featured in our weekly guide. Tomorrow, Robin Young visits Le Touquet. Or you may drop in at our Festival of the week, a series which starts on this page today in Aix-en-Provence. We will also cover the French property market, the state of the French language and run a humorous column on Gallic manners.

OFFERS



AND that's not all. The Times is also able to significantly reduce the cost of your stay in France. Starting



tomorrow, and continuing for the next 12 weeks, The Times together with The Sunday Times is giving readers the opportunity to take advantage of a series of exclusive travel and accommodation offers. Tomorrow we launch this series in a 4-page supplement with the offer of up to 50 per cent off a hundred of the finest 3 and 4 star hotels in France — in association with the French hotel group Mercure and Alta.

And not only can we offer excellent French hotels at excellent value — we can help you get there too. Throughout the next 12 weeks The Times and Sunday Times present offers with free air tickets to Paris or Lyon — or on Sealink car-ferry crossings — and half-price Hoverspeed crossings.

You can also win a pair of tickets for luxury weekend breaks for two to Paris: win a stake in a vineyard with your own wine — or why not sample 40 châteaux and country houses with an card entitling you to 25 per cent off accommodation plus discounts on car rental, tours, restaurants, introductions to golf clubs and wine tastings? Your Passport to France is indispensable reading.

The Times is available in most major towns in France but if you want to be sure of keeping up with our French series while you are on holiday, our Subscriptions Department can mail you a copy each day. (Most places in France can be reached by post on the day after publication. A two-week subscription will cost £14.40.) Contact: News International Distribution Ltd, Subscriptions Department, PO Box 479, Virginia Street, London E1 9XV. Tel: 071-732-6129



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Music in Provençal air



FESTIVAL FRANCE AIX-EN-PROVENCE

Those attracted by the thought of a starry evening in Provence listening to a favourite symphony filling the mirro-scented summer air should be aware of the little-known fact that you don't have to wait until the Festival d'Art Lyrique opens in Aix-en-Provence on July 13 to enjoy it. Tomorrow sees the start of Aix-en-Musique, a six-week festival which unites a wealth of regional and international artists in 40 events.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this summer, the festival, which runs until July 12, features 25 concerts and four operas, including a tribute to Darius Milhaud, and the French premiere of Gluck's *Telemaque*.

With its emphasis on useful talent and a high percentage of free or nominally-priced events, much of Aix-en-Musique's charm is that it offers visitors the opportunity to sample the delights of the open-air concert in an idyllic setting for little cost. This year, Aix-en-Musique expects to welcome 25,000 visitors — only 10,000 fewer than its cousin, the Festival d'Art Lyrique.

The festival opens with a tribute to a favourite son: Darius Milhaud, the prolific Jewish composer born in Aix in 1892. The most Provencal of composers, Milhaud's music reflects the intensity of colour of the sun-soaked Mediterranean landscape, to which he was so attached. However, it is his Jewish origins which inspire the opening concert in a celebration of the 100th anniversary of his birth. Against the magnificent backdrop of the Cathédrale Saint-Sauveur, the region's best singers unite under the



Aix-en-Provence: an idyllic setting for a music festival

banner of Vocale Provence to perform the Service Sacré, composed in 1947, and the *Cantate de L'Invitation*, written in 1960 for the 13th anniversary of Israel's political resurrection — a bar mitzvah for the coming of age of the Jewish state.

A free gala concert follows on June 19, when the Orchestre de Cannes Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur plays five of Milhaud's works, including the *Cantate d'Aix* and *La Suite Provençale*. Two operas, *Escher de Carpentras* and *Opéra Minutes*, three highly entertaining mini-operas (each lasts only eight minutes) will be performed on July 12 and on July 4 and 5 respectively.

A series of talks and a special screening of several films scored by Milhaud, including Jean Renoir's 1934 classic, *Madame Bovary*, complete the tribute.

The tremendous popularity of Gluck's *Orphée et Eurydice* has inspired the revival of last year's highly-acclaimed production by a local impresario, Alain Aubin. Three performances are scheduled, for June 28 and 30 and July 7. An added delight: the opera will be staged in one of Aix's best-kept architectural secrets, the subter-

baroque Jesuit chapel of Sacré Cœur.

La Scala's Elisabeth Sandry plays Circe in Aubin's production of Gluck's *Telemaque*. This French premiere will be performed on July 7, 9, and 10 in the gardens of Sacré Cœur.

While boasting an abundance of local talent, there is also a strong international flavour to the festival. Manchester's Sinfonia this year marks its fourth appearance at Aix-en-Musique.

The 40 young musicians from the Royal Northern College of Music will accompany violinist Olivier Charrier, twin pianists Florence and Isabelle Lafitte, and Aix-born pianist Eric Le Sage in a series of symphony concerts. The orchestra will also perform Handel's *Messiah* at the Cathédrale Saint-Sauveur.

On July 8, the San Francisco Youth Symphony Orchestra will play Bernstein, Edgar, and Strauss. Also on the programme are concerts by groups from Africa, Japan and Nepal.

Aix-en-Musique, Espace Forbin, 3, Place John Rawald, 13100 Aix-en-Provence. Tel: (010) 33 42-21-69-69.

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On a hundred wings and a prayer

Can you spot more
birds on four legs
than two?
Simon Barnes
packed his pen,
mounted his steed
and put it to the test

Folly is essential if one wishes to remain sane. Perhaps you are beginning to push your luck with two follies, but even then, balance can be retained. The real danger comes from trying to mix two follies. It is like mixing nitro and glycerine. Still, someone had to do it. Nobody has ever attempted to go birdwatching on horseback. It was one of those epic challenges that stir the blood. It was the Everest of birdwatching and, like Sir Edmund, we were the first. That was the glory that got Team Glenfiddich, which comprised four people who should know better but quite clearly did not, mounted on four horses, and galloping around the Suffolk countryside in pursuit of every single bird in that bird-thrived county.

Birdwatching is a form of dementia. The idea is to see as many different species of bird as possible during a 24-hour period. The secret is habitat. Different species of bird have adapted to live in different habitats. That, if you like, is an aspect of the Meaning of Life. Accordingly, the traditional way to go birdwatching is to get hold of a fast car, or a hot-rod all-terrain vehicle, and visit as many habitats as possible in 24 hours of madness, speed, insomnia and frenzied birding. So we decided to do the thing on horseback.

Birdwatching has become a grand tradition in little more than a decade. It was invented as a fundraising stunt by professional bird person David Tomlinson. The inspiration came to him in a dentist's waiting room. Some aspects of mounted birdwatching make visiting the dentist irresistibly attractive.

We assembled a crack, or at least mildly cracked, team of people whose lives involved the twin follies of birds and horses. These were David Tomlinson himself, me, Jane Fenton of the International Council for Bird Preservation, and Sylvia Sullivan, from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Everything seemed so gloriously simple. Just us, the horses, the binoculars, the birds. Rather idyllic. All horse people know that nothing with horses ever goes to plan, and it always takes twice as long as the most pessimistic estimate. All horse people know this: none of us ever remembers.

First, we had to get four horses to Suffolk, from four different points in the south of England. And I had to get hold of a horse, since my own beast was rather involved with a six-week-old foal. Jan Frost, who runs the stables where I keep my beasts, promised me a horse, but then sold it. So she promised me another, but then discovered that this animal tended to kick every other horse in sight. Something would turn up, she said, and it did. I met Oliver for the first time the day we set out to go



High fliers: after numerous false starts, the riders began to notch up their birdspotting scores. Listening for songs was as important as peering through binoculars

birdwatching: a handsome, chunky cob who looked ideal for the job. We then had a horse-trailer crisis. David discovered that his borrowed trailer would take only one horse. I rounded up a substitute with a spot of frenzied telephoning and a couple of folded bank notes.

David arrived in a brand-new BMW on loan from the company, and we jugged the trailers and horses and then transported the horses to Suffolk. It was a long drive, and ticklish driving. We then exercised the horses, combining this with a recce of some of the bird paths, and moved on to the next crisis.

Oliver refused to go back in the trailer, not fancying another three-hour drive. I told him we were only to go a few miles, and eventually he believed me, with the added persuasion of a rugby scrum formed by with the help of a horse vet who just happened to be passing.

We drove the horses to a farm that had offered the animals two nights' accommodation, unloaded, and heard of the next crisis. Sylvia's horse had refused to enter a trailer and she

was horseless. Shortly afterwards, she phoned again: she had been loaned a 28-year-old cob called Pedro. She and Jane expected to be with us at midnight. Great, we said. We'll be up and birding by 3am.

David and I turned in early. A healthy slug of Glenfiddich does wondrous things for morale: the team sponsors had issued us with a team bottle. What crisis?

Another question: what were we doing this for? To raise money. The event is formally entitled the in

focus County Bird Race, and it gets bigger every year. This year, in May, 200 teams entered, all to raise money for the ICBP Spanish Steppes Appeal, and for the county wildlife trusts: a good double-whammy of global and local concerns. There is a non-motorised class in the event, which we aimed to win.

As well as Glenfiddich, our principal sponsors, we had additional support from Zeiss binoculars and BMW, and various private

individuals as well. Jolly good stuff, and thanks a million and all that. But was the lolly the reason for all this madness? Or the excuse?

At three the alarm went: swearing and muttering and rubbing gummy eyes, we began. Conversation was not spriely. "Heard there will be thunderstorms."

"Good. Perhaps my horse will get struck by lightning," Sylvia had taken her horse's behaviour hard.

A band of aides, recruited by the silver-tongued Tomlinson, had

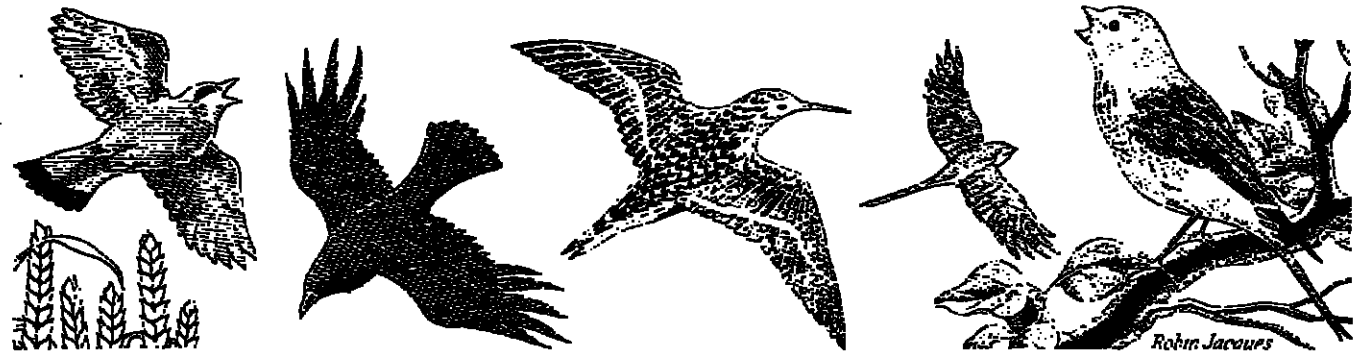
promised to bring us our horses at 9.30. We abandoned the car at first light: from now on, every species of bird we saw was worth a point. We entered Minsmere; it was outside visiting hours, but the warden had allowed us the run of the place. The churring of a nightjar greeted us almost at once. In birdwatching, you do not need to see your bird: recognition by ear is good enough.

And so the glorios began. The dawn chorus at Minsmere is one of the wonders of the world. A few hours of hectic ticking allowed us to get a good few birds under our belts before the horsey business began.

The slump hit us at nine, as we sat and waited for the horses. They arrived an hour late. Charlie, David's normally angelic chestnut hunter, had refused to go into the trailer. A small crisis by our standards. We mounted and set off. Jane's aristocratic Roland and walked for mile after mile on happily striding horses through the willow-warbling birdways of Suffolk. What more could anyone want after that?

The answer, of course, is a perfectly colossal glass of Glenfiddich. We fed and watered the horses, and returned to the sponsor's bottle. My head was still ringing with birdsong.

SPECIES SPOTTED BY THE RIDERS



Birds recorded from horseback: heron, mute swan, greylag goose, Canada goose, barnacle goose, shelduck, gadwall, mallard, marsh harrier, hobby, red-legged partridge, pheasant, moorhen, coot, oystercatcher, lapwing, dunlin, redshank, black-headed gull, lesser black-backed gull, herring gull, greater black-backed gull, feral

pigeon, wood pigeon, turtle dove, cuckoo, swift, green woodpecker, skylark, sand martin, swallow, house martin, tree pipit, meadow pipit, pied wagtail, wren, duncock, robin, stonechat, blackbird, song thrush, mistle thrush, sedge warbler, reed warbler, lesser whitethroat, whitethroat, blackcap, chiff

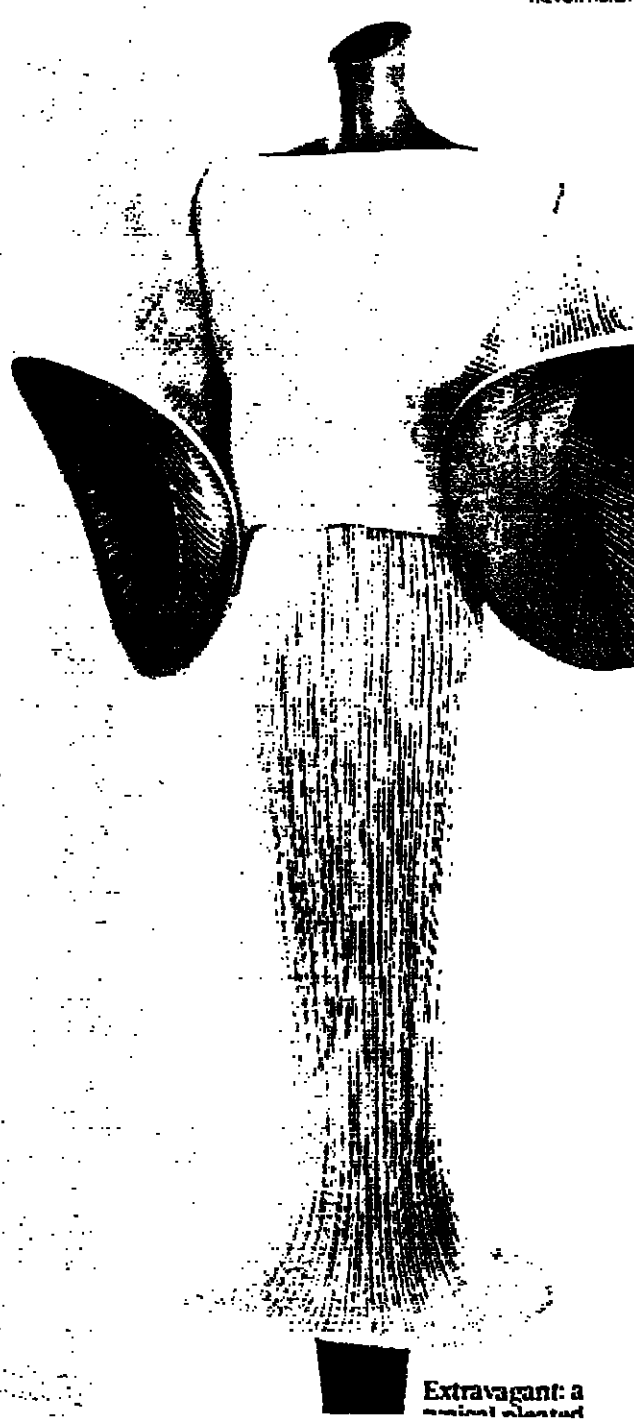
chaff, willow warbler, goldcrest, long-tailed tit, coal tit, blue tit, great tit, treecreeper, jackdaw, rook, carrion crow, starling, chaffinch, greenfinch, goldfinch, redpoll, yellowhammer, reed bunting.

Others great crested grebe, cormorant, bittern, wigeon, teal, pintail, shoveler, kestrel, avocet, ringed plover, grey plover, ruff, snipe, bar-tailed godwit, green-shank, common sandpiper, turnstone, little gull, common gull, common tern, little tern, stock dove, tawny owl, nightjar, great spotted woodpecker, woodlark, goldcrest, spotted flycatcher, jay, house sparrow, linnet, Star rarity, bee-eater. Most embarrassing miss: collared dove.

The London-based Japanese designer Yuki is still making creations that simply flow with the body

TREVOR HURST

Well-fabricated designs



The women who enjoy wearing the rippling, bias-cut clothes created by the Japanese fashion designer Yuki are well aware of their dramatic effect. Maria Aitken still wears a flame-coloured draped dress that he designed a decade ago when she appeared on stage, as Gilda in Noel Coward's *Design for Living*, and the Princess of Wales, inspired by the theatrical glamour of the Yuki midnight-blue pleated dress that she chose for a state banquet in Tokyo, stunned the world with her flapper-girl appearance.

Lady Diana Cooper understood in her latter days, as Natalia Makarova does today, how to play for impact the simplicity of one of his back-plunging jersey numbers. Gayle Hunnicutt, Diana Rigg, and even Margaret Thatcher before her iron-lady tailoring took its hold, have all learnt to appreciate the worth of a grand evening dress.

Yuki's dramatic, sculptural creations are the stars of an exhibition at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, celebrating the twentieth anniversary of his first impact in 1972 on the still-swinging British fashion scene. Yuki, or Gnyuki Torimaru to give him his full name, had trained as a textile engineer in Japan, a grounding that has clearly informed his subsequent experimentation with the performance of fabric and the play of pleats that distinguish his designs. In the Sixties he



The master: his experiments continue to succeed

ture at the Art Institute of Chicago before moving on to the London College of Fashion. His real fashion training, however, took place alongside Pierre Cardin, with whom he worked for two years, and whose liberated attitude to the cut of fabric he readily admits has remained an influence.

When Yuki finally arrived back in London in 1972 to set up his own fashion label, his base was the elegant house in Chester Square where he still lives. Two friends from Paris came to help make the 15 garments in his first collection and the initial outlay on cloth was funded by £2,000 from American friends. It was more difficult to raise financial back-

his extravagantly swooping floor-length creations, many of them full circles of silk satin chiffon, weighted with padded hems and jacked with face-framing circular collars and voluminous sleeves. The Yuki label was finally launched in 1972 with an exclusive contract with Harvey Nichols. His silk-jersey sunsuits and seemingly seamless halter-neck dresses were seen on Jerry Hall and Marie Helvin, and adorned the pages of *Vogue*. He says he got stuck with the "jersey-man" image because he never had time to find any other fabric. It was precisely what the fashionable set wanted in the Seventies, and Yuki supplied it best,

was well-organised. But by the time I had done the cutting, the deliveries and the invoicing, all by myself, I had no time to go to the fabric trade fairs. When a collection was due, I just got in more jersey."

While keeping his base in London, Yuki began to establish the lucrative design contracts which have kept him successfully in business. While he always kept a loyal private clientele for his sculptural style, he opened a Gnyuki Torimaru shop in Belgravia and launched in 1990 a collection that combined structured daytime tailoring with bias-cut evening dresses to keep his devoted fans happy.

The current display of Yuki's talents in the V&A is proof that his experiments with fabric continue to succeed with dramatic effect. Folds of creamy silk gauze are turned into a sculptural top that finishes in a hood. Two hooped tubes of scarlet polyester form a surprisingly comfortable jacket.

Where other Japanese designers might be accused of ignoring a woman's anatomy, Yuki's cut is consciously sensual. "My designs start with the body. I work at taking away all unnecessary detail," he says.

Amy de la Haye, a V&A curator in the textiles department, believes that Yuki's designs and workmanship warrant the close scrutiny of a museum display. "His simple tube dresses in pleated polyester, shaped with plastic hoops, taking the form of lilies, are almost organic," she says.

LIZ SMITH

Yuki: Twenty Years as London Fashion Designer is at the V&A, SW7 (071-938 8424).

The thought police of the left



This Friday The TES visits US campuses to investigate Political Correctness.

TES

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Is the shooting party over?

With their charitable status under threat, the gun clubs fight on. Kate Muir reports

John De Havilland, a dignified gentleman recently retired from merchant banking at Schroder's, is lying flat on his back and peering down the barrel of a long object akin to a golf club. "You rest it on your knee and hold it rock steady," he advises. "We changed to this position in 1870, when the English team found the Americans shot better on their backs."

In a flurry of suede elbow-patches, he rises and explains this demonstration has been of match rifle-shooting, aimed at targets over a thousand yards away. Further along the verandah, Lord Swansea and his wife munch at their packed lunch, unperturbed. In the distance, there is the regular, soothing patter of gunfire.

Thus pass the summer afternoons in the colonial-style wooden bungalow which comes along with the chairmanship of the National Rifle Association (NRA). Life is not always this easy for Mr De Havilland, who must party attacks on his organisation, and gun-owners generally, as well as running nearly 1,000 acres of Bisley Camp in Surrey, Britain's biggest shooting range.

"We face an increasingly suspicious public, and our legislators tend to be anti-shooting," he says. This year, the Charity Commission provisionally rejected applications for charitable status from two rifle clubs, and the fear is that the other 400 or so may be stripped of their status too. That gun clubs should reap the attendant tax advantages of such status at all seems peculiar, but a Victorian court case confirmed that their purpose of promoting the defence of the realm was unimpeachably charitable.

Now, however, the commission believes "this purpose cannot, in the modern age, be carried out by the provision of facilities for target shooting amongst the public at large". Despite a submission from the NRA, the commission this week reaffirmed that this statement "indicated their current thinking". The other clubs could be deprived of charitable status by the end of the year.

Shooters, as they refer to themselves, are incensed by the decision, for they not only stand to lose money, but they are also insulted that the realm can defend itself without them. Mr De Havilland points out that the military often gains useful research information from civilian marksmanship, though not necessarily from his own arcane area of the sport.

Richard Munday, a farmer and weapons historian who also writes for

Handgunner magazine, says: "Marksmanship training in the British army has been the victim of cost-cutting in recent years, and it is a not uncommon complaint among servicemen that if they want to learn to shoot, it's no good joining the forces." He believes that if we ever need a Home Guard again, the gun clubs will provide a reservoir of basic infantry marksmanship skill.

But the shooters at Pistol 92, the annual international pistol competition held at Bisley last weekend, did not look like perfect infantry fodder. What looked like a row of whales was in fact the line-up for the police-style pistol competition. Huge-bellied men in fluorescent sportswear and leather holsters were wiping out grinning cardboard terrorist targets. Their accuracy cannot be doubted, but surely infantrymen do not waddle?

One or two broke, sweating, from the ranks to point out that shooting is Britain's second largest participant sport, after angling. There are over two million shooters, and Mr De Havilland is considering taking advantage of this by opening the 4,500-member NRA to supporters, some of whom will be non-participants. Such a move would bring the British gun-lobby closer to the strength of the American NRA, which has over two million members, including President Bush.

As a hobby, shooting is growing. The British NRA membership doubles every ten years, and there are several monthly gun magazines, each with a circulation of about 30,000. Mr De Havilland says the sport now takes in a wider range of people: the huntin' shootin' fishin' fraternity has been supplemented by gunmen who prefer paper targets. In the summer shooting season at Bisley, the pistol meet in May attracts all classes, but the rifle meet in July is a more upmarket affair.

A basic pistol can be purchased for £80, a rifle for twice that. Some types of gun licences are available to 14-year-olds, but gun-buyers must be 17. Compared with a sports such as golf, equipment and club membership is cheap. But there must be other reasons for its popularity.

Out on the pistol range, opinions are readily voiced. Stuart Freeman, a warehouseman from Feltham, wearing protective earmuffs and baseball cap, said: "I like it because the discipline is so precise."

John Summers, a self-employed businessman from Yorkshire, entered the service pistol, police pistol, and alarmingly-titled Man v Man



Pistol packin': enthusiastic fellow shooters compete at Bisley Camp shooting range in Surrey

competitions. "The concentration required for accuracy is like nothing else. You're also competing against yourself, your previous best." Shooting, he pointed out, "is much safer than, say rugby, because it's so carefully controlled".

Indeed, there was not a policeman to be seen among the 5,000-strong bank holiday meeting crowd — partly because many were competitors, dressed in civies. "You are looking at some of the most law-abiding people around," said Margaret Phillips, an organiser at Pistol 92. "They are all licensed and have been checked out by the police. For people like me who have lived around guns for a long time, they cease to be shocking."

The clubs are edgy about their reputations following the carnage caused by Michael Ryan in Hungerford in 1987 and the Government's subsequent ban on self-loading rifles and automatic machine guns. A National Firearms Control Board was suggested by the Home Office this March to replace the

current police licensing and checks, and the shooters are keeping their heads down in case the regulations get tougher.

Although there is much talk about safety, this is also combined with a militant vigilance. Mr Munday points out that in Switzerland, where every household has a gun, the armed crime rate is negligible.

Gun magazines constantly dwell on the citizen's right to hold arms, and each magazine takes a stall at the pistol fair. There seem to be two types of reader. The first is attracted by the technology. "Recall, attenuation is assisted by a soft Pachmayr Decelerator butt pad," it says of a bullpup rifle in *Target Gun*.

The second reads of darker desires. Take this photo-caption from this month's *Handgunner*: "A cut-throat party of the 1/8th (Irish) King's Liverpool Regiment the morning of 18th April, 1916, still on a high after

a successful night's trench raiding. Two revolvers and a club are visible, but it was mostly bayonet work. It was for this sort of sport that the Germans developed the SMG."

The advertisements play to such emotions — the Rambo Sidearm, a 15-inch black and stainless steel knife is offered for £16.50. Suppliers offer "everything for the hunter", including handcuffs, with which, presumably, to restrain the dead rabbit. Advice on hunting knives is bracing: "The skill of the hand manipulating the knife decides how efficient any blade is. Men are always more important than kit."

Precisely what all this has to do with charitable status of the gun club or the defence of the realm is not clear. But as the Prince of Wales, who was president of the NRA in 1925, said: "We are not just sportsmen. Let us emphasise the truth. Let us tell our fellow citizens once and for all that we are not on the same plane as the golfer or the footballer."

Going grey with care

A lifelong carer explains how she became entrenched in drudgery

A report out last week on carers highlighted our susceptibility to illness, exhaustion and poverty. But little was said of the sheer devastation caring can wreak on people's lives. On the whole my great aunt (now aged 104) doesn't approve of gadgets. "I hate the Hoover," she says. "Use the dustpan and brush. I can't bear the mop. Much better to do it on hands and knees with rags."

She felt the same about lawn mowers. I used to do her garden with a lawnmower, while she sat in the middle and watched me. An hour later she would say: "You know dear you are so sweaty. Better have your tea outside. We don't want the house to stink." Well it does now, because I have gone on strike. Thrown in the sponge I used to wash her with, the towel I dried her with, I've been a carer nearly all my life to an array of relatives. Some, a generation older than I am, have hair still dark while mine is growing grey. There have been years of not going out except to visit the ailing and afflicted.

What devilish forces are they that extinguish any twinkle in a carer's eye? They are even at work when you organise a day out. You beguile the local services to stand in for you. Then there's a hurricane or a flash flood and they don't turn up. Or the carer-for-one embarks on a crisis of her own. But how does one account for the resultant sense of grievance? The fact is, you can get entrenched in drudgery. Why else can't I have a cup of tea in a friend's house without cleaning their oven, scrubbing their floor and washing the cup and leaving it neatly draining?

I have tried to delegate more. I've been round 18 different (mostly impossible expensive) homes. The one relative who had to go into one long-term because she was paralysed and unable to speak, I kept moving on. Was I too fussy? Ladies in charge can't after all help having black teeth edged with silver that make them look like dracula. My great aunt was in a home following an operation. She didn't like the food, and I had to bring in separate meals every afternoon. Then she discovered a Belgian under the same roof. "Can't have that," she said. "Not after the war." Her notice was accepted with revealing alacrity. Am I, as my great aunt states, a natural drudge? Is she who has never lifted a duster and only once (much talked about) extracted a weed from a garden a star? Possibly. For chores are great dissipaters of creativity. So often the drudged against — as they would have it — do indeed hog the glittering prizes.

Meanwhile they keep their minion skilfully under wraps, nursed along with occasional barbed praise: "I know I'm a horrid little girl sometimes but I do appreciate what you do. And I'm quite sure it wasn't you who stole the toothpaste."

Then at last she accepts paid help. Someone else arrives and their name spills into every sentence. You realise that after all she could have done without you. But it's too late. Thrown out into the wild you are almost unable to cope. You are not unswerving. Unqualified in everything but caring, many of us end up taking on paid work in the same field.

We are a breed that knows no ruthlessness — especially when it comes to caring for ourselves.

ANTHEA SAXON

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EDUCATION TIMES

Pupils who have trouble coping are losing out, Catherine Nathan and Lorna Woosnam report

A question of natural selection?

An increasing number of young people have an uncertain educational future. There are the faces that do not fit in the glossy brochures or promotional videos which some of the more enterprising secondary schools are producing to woo parents.

Who are these young people? Take Mark, who is aged 14. He was first moved into local authority care when he was nine. Since then, he has attended a variety of schools including a boarding school, from which he started running away when he was 13. Social services are now trying to reunite him with his mother. Not surprisingly, his education has suffered and he has difficulties with reading and writing. Placement in an ordinary school where GCSE work has begun would not be suitable, without additional help.

But Mark is unlikely to get this assistance because he does not have a statement of special educational need. Getting this legal entitlement to extra resources is a cumbersome process and he was never in the right place at the right time for all the paperwork to be completed. For Mark and many like him, the prospect of further schooling is becoming increasingly remote. Not only is he disadvantaged; he is at considerable risk of sliding into a downward spiral of hopelessness and the attendant danger of criminality.

An increasing number of children, particularly in inner cities, are out of school. Although the reasons for this vary, they are usually understandable. Fifteen-year-old Jenny is typical. As she has got older, she has had to take on the care of her mother, who suffers from agoraphobia, and her younger siblings. She is an able pupil

and her school has tried to help and encouraged her to pursue exam courses. But the struggle between home and school has got too difficult and she has fallen behind.

The needs of this growing band of children, particularly adolescents, are a thorn in the flesh of most local authorities. Unlike physically disabled children, they fail to evoke national sympathy (and thus resources) because they represent the miseries and failures of human endeavour. They stir up powerful feelings of anger and guilt from which most of us would rather shy away. Ideologists, meanwhile, reiterate the importance of "integration" and "maintaining children within mainstream schools".

As the arguments about who is to blame — the school system or parental inadequacy — rage on, the problem is growing. The 1988 Education Reform Act, which paved the way for local management of schools, means that support services are no longer funded by central resourcing. Financially stretched schools will need to "buy into" services if they require help for their most difficult pupils. Furthermore, the schools will have to publish league tables of national curriculum test results and public exam results, at which these students are unlikely to excel.

How much easier and cheaper, then, to get rid of problem pupils. There is ample evidence from all over the country that this is already happening and the rate of exclusions is accelerating alarmingly. As more and more schools opt out of the LEA control and become grant maintained; as more schools introduce selective admissions policies; as more schools are forced to compete with each other in the educational market place, so they will



A window closes: the future for children with problems is looking bleaker than it has to be

become less and less willing to address the problems of these troublesome students.

At the same time as the schools close their doors to them, the services that have traditionally acted as a safety net are also disappearing. Unfortunately, neither politicians nor educational policy makers are aware of the number of children about to fall outside the educational system.

Fortunately, a safety net still exists in some areas in the form of a variety of small centres set up when money was plentiful in the 1970s. Many of them evolved in the wake of the free school movement but have since grown up. Some, run by charities but staffed by local authority teachers, have a degree of independence. Others are fully maintained by the local authority. Mostly they offer full-time education to young people between 14 and 16 who, like Mark and Jenny, cannot keep up with the pressures of mainstream school.

These schools are far more appealing to unwilling or difficult students for a variety of reasons. First of all, they are much smaller, and in a group of 12 to 24, students know all the other pupils and staff by name. This is often a flashback

to early days at primary school when life was safer and simpler, and provides the secure environment they need. The "us and them" barrier between teachers and pupils so much in evidence in most large institutions is reduced to a minimum. The day is organised to encourage interaction between them, and there is less emphasis on purely academic achievement. Although most centres offer a broad curriculum, there is a realistic acceptance that it is pointless to try to teach GCSE English to a pupil who can hardly read.

Teachers start from where the child is and not from where he or she ought to be, accepting pupils' difficulties rather than inducing humiliation when they are behind with work. This is more likely to happen in circumstances where a variety of opportunities are available.

An important creed of these centres is that a pupil is rarely hopeless at everything. The children's status in these centres is not

determined by academic results, and shopping and cooking the lunch are seen to be as important as GCSE course work (it may even form part of it).

It would be a mistake to imagine that the small centre cannot offer enough academic courses to enable a pupil to go on to further education, and many do. But these centres are in danger of disappearing. Instead there are plans for unified services for special educational needs where the investment in education, and many do, but these centres are in danger of disappearing.

We are about to witness the birth of an educational underclass

"Integration" will leave few resources for off-site education. As a result, we are about to witness the birth of an educational underclass.

Unless educational fashion takes its cue from what works rather than what sounds good on paper, we will have to wait until some minister goes abroad to look for solutions to our problems and comes back with the idea of small centres. If they only knew that a solution still exists on their own doorstep.

The authors, special needs advisers, have written under pseudonyms

Test fails the real criteria

English teaching is taking a step to the wrong form of examination

SO MUCH uproar has been caused by the government's plan to ban 100 per cent coursework assessment in English that little attention has been paid to the examination-based form of testing that will take its place.

Testing at 16 has recently taken the form of the GCSE, which has in many ways been successful. The heavy coursework component, sometimes comprising 100 per cent of the marks, has been generally popular with staff and students.

Pupils have been motivated to produce their best work throughout the two-year course since each piece of work could contribute to the final grade. Teachers have been able to choose texts and topics to suit specifically the aptitudes of their pupils, who have welcomed the chance to work at their own speed.

Some in high places were, however, suspicious of the accuracy of the grades produced by coursework. In 1994, testing must comply with the boundaries set by the National Curriculum Council, which was instructed to design standard attainment tests, relying less on coursework.

Sixty per cent of the marks will be gained from fairly traditional exams, comprising a paper where pupils "respond" to a piece of writing, together with various forms of essay writing. Somewhat unimaginative, perhaps, but reasonable so far.

Ten per cent of marks will still be attributed to coursework. Since the whole system was changed purely because the coursework element is open to abuse, the retention of coursework, its critics contend, creates an in-built margin of error.

Ten per cent of marks will reward neat handwriting and

good spelling; an "impression" mark that cannot be expected to be accurate. Twenty per cent of marks will reward the pupils' oral ability.

And here lies the fault in the system. For 20 years, children have been examined on their ability to express themselves orally, but this grade has always been separate from, and less important than, the main English grade. Judging a pupil's oral communication skills is a subjective and haphazard activity.

Some pupils will not respond well when talking in front of an unpopular teacher, others will have trouble among poorly motivated or ill-informed classmates. There is a danger of rewarding the second-hand car salesman to the detriment of the introverted poet.

Thus 40 per cent of marks will be distributed in a quite arbitrary way. In 1994, employers will again have cause to be critical of the writing skills of their new recruits, despite the fact that they may have seemingly impressive grades in English.

Accusing fingers will be pointed at the country's English teachers, while the real cause of the confusion will be the excessive emphasis on oral skills and a too-loose method of marking.

The council has driven primary teachers to despair by imposing on them over-complicated forms of testing and has wasted countless hours of science teachers' time by making them prepare work for 17 attainment targets before reducing the number to five. Now they are in danger of causing a whole generation to be inaccurately assessed in English.

The author is an English teacher at Court Moor School, Fleet, Hampshire

VIEWPOINT

Fred Redwood



Why a state-private school link is facing a doubtful future

In a strange twist in the government's drive to persuade more schools to go grant maintained, a unique link between a leading public school and a local comprehensive may be lost if parents of children at the secondary school decide to opt out of county council control.

Councillors and officials in Wiltshire have told parents at the 430-pupil Lavington School that the 24-year-old link with the nearby Dauntsey's School will be at risk if they decide to vote for grant maintained status in the ballot, which will be completed this month.

David Bury, the headmaster at the 11-15 Lavington School, and the governors have advised parents to vote for opting out. They hope the council, which still has to take a formal decision, will continue to support the link. Mr Bury believes that a vote against opting out would, in itself, not guarantee continued funding.

Parents and governors of both schools have been concerned about the future since Ivor Gloombe, chief education officer of Wiltshire, told them that some county councillors thought that they would not be able to continue the link in its present form after 1993 if Lavington went grant maintained.

"It would be unfortunate if this very worthwhile and tested link came to an end," Mr Bury says. "It is marvellous, and would be to the benefit of both schools if the link continued. It seems sad that a government which is encouraging schools to go grant maintained is unable to make the support available for this arrangement to continue."

"We should either be funded directly by the education department or through the local education authority because we are dealing with a precedent of 24 years' standing and there is no reason why it should suddenly stop."

Christopher Evans, the headmaster of Dauntsey's School, which has 605 pupils, of which 267 are weekly boarders, is a strong proponent of the scheme, which began in September 1968. He says it is one of the reasons he was keen to become head at Dauntsey's when he was appointed seven years ago.

"The link between Dauntsey's and Lavington is quite famous and it appealed to me because I have never liked the idea of the traditional public school," he adds. "The link gives us a uniqueness among independent schools, which neither I nor the staff want to lose."

A switch to grant maintained status could end a special arrangement

Lavington pupils should be admitted to Dauntsey's sixth form. This September, 18 Lavington pupils are likely to join the 200-strong form at Dauntsey's.

To qualify for Dauntsey's, Lavington pupils have to live within their own school's catchment area, have been to a state school for two years and meet Dauntsey's own entrance requirements — about four GCSEs at grades A to C, together with a reference from Mr Bury.

Some county councillors have tried to have the link stopped on both financial and party political grounds. When the Labour government abolished direct grant grammar schools in 1972, the county council reconsidered the link, but agreed to continue with it.

The council says the annual cost of the

not automatically have to cease funding the link if Lavington went grant maintained, and that the authority is obliged to provide education for all 16 to 18-year-olds in the area who demand it.

He says the government would be unable to fund the link directly but it would be open to Lavington to apply for a change of character once it had opted out to be allowed to establish a sixth form, which it would run in Dauntsey's. This could, however, take at least two years to arrange, and the government would not necessarily agree to the proposal.

"Whether or not the county council continues its support is at its discretion," Mr Antram says. "I would like to see the link continue anyway. How it is financed is a matter for the school."

Until the recent local elections, Wiltshire was a hung council, but there is now a Conservative majority of two. Reg Coole, a Liberal Democrat, and former education committee chairman and one of two local authority governors at Dauntsey's, believes that the council will withdraw financial support if Lavington opts out. He says: "If a school has opted out of local authority control, it would be difficult for the authority to continue to support it financially. Other schools would have a case against the authority if it continued to support a grant maintained school outside the authority with funds not available to them."

Jason Ventress, 15, is in the upper sixth at Dauntsey's, having moved there from Lavington two years ago. He is sitting A levels in mathematics, physics, craft design and technology and AS level chemistry. He hopes to become an aeronautical engineer and has been offered a provisional place at Imperial College, London.

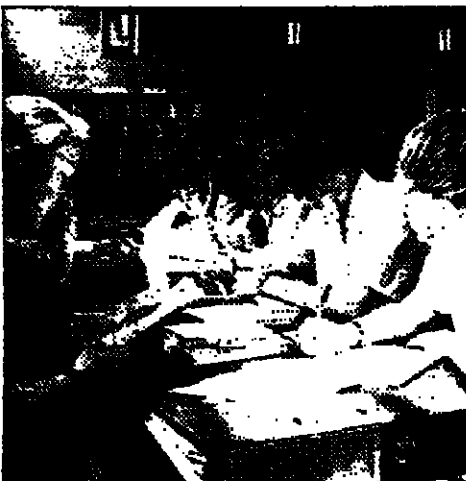
Jason had been taught Latin and science at Lavington by teachers from Dauntsey's and was offered a place in the sixth form as an alternative to a place at Devizes or a sixth form college. "Dauntsey's has a good reputation and facilities and is a good place for A levels," he says. "The link between the schools offers many opportunities and to end it might mean some Lavington pupils would lose some opportunities at A level."

One of the most enthusiastic supporters of the link is Kerry-Ann Travers, who is just finishing her first year at St John's College, Cambridge, where she is reading law. "It would be awful if it were to stop," she says. "I am sure a lot of people would not get to university without the teaching at Dauntsey's."

Kerry-Ann received A grades in French, German, and general studies A levels and a B in maths. She says: "The two years at Dauntsey's were the best in my school life. The teaching was marvellous and I had some of the teachers I had at Lavington."

"In some respects, it was just like going to another school building down the road."

Michael Antram, the newly elected Conservative MP for Devizes, says he has



Happy mix sixth formers at Dauntsey's

link is about £79,000 in sixth form fees, plus £11,500 for 14 Dauntsey's staff who teach regularly at Lavington. There is some dispute over the total fees, but Mr Bury says that the extra cost to the council, which would have to provide education for the pupils in its own schools or colleges, is about £60,000 a year.

Day fees at Dauntsey's are £5,358 a year, but the county council is given a 20 per cent discount for Lavington pupils. Wilshire estimates the annual cost of keeping a child in the sixth form at Devizes, where the Lavington pupils are already offered places, is £2,400 a year.

Mr Evans says that both groups of pupils get on well and gain by mixing with students from a range of backgrounds. "It will," he says, "be detrimental to all the pupils and both schools if the local authority withdraws its support."

Michael Antram, the newly elected Conservative MP for Devizes, says he has

DAVID TYTLER

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

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2 Lecturers in Sociology

Applications are invited for the above posts to be filled from 1 October 1992. Candidates must have a good knowledge of sociological research methods and be willing to work on collaborative empirical research projects as a member of a team. Preference may be given to candidates with expertise in the sociology of food, diet and health or the conservative study of European institutions and policy, in which case a knowledge of a major foreign language will be useful.

Salary scale £12,000 to £17,807 per annum (A1) under review from 1 May 1992 - plus USB benefits. Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from the Personnel Office, University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 217, READING RG6 2AH. Tel: 0734 341671. Please quote Ref: AC0216. Closing date: 26 June 1992.



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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

CHAPLAINCY

The College Council propose to appoint a Chaplain to commence his duties, if possible, on 1 September 1992. Applicants for the office of College Chaplain must be in Anglican Priest's Orders. They may be married or unmarried, but should preferably be under the age of 35. The Chaplain has charge of the Chapel, and pastoral duties within the College during periods of residence. A Chaplain with suitable qualifications would be considered for a Fellowship.

Further particulars, including details of stipend and allowances, may be obtained from the Master, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge CB2 3RU, to whom applications, giving the names of two referees, should be sent by 26 June 1992.

THE SUNDAY TIMES TES

DIRECTIONS WEEK '92

June 30th - July 4th 1992

The Business Design Centre Islington London

THE LONDON GRADUATE RECRUITMENT FAIR 1992

June 30 - July 2

(Organised by The University of London Careers Advisory Service)

For new and recent graduates. Over 100 organisations offering information about jobs now and in the future, and postgraduate courses. European Pavilion, seminars, careers advice, CV surgery and much more.

30th June 10.00-17.00 1st July 10.00-19.00
2nd July 10.00-17.00

Tel: Exhibitors: 071-387 8221
Visitors: 0800 252183

SCHOOLS FAIR

July 3rd - 4th 1992

(Organised by News International Exhibitions)

The Schools' Fair is aimed exclusively at school leavers looking for long term career counselling and advice on Higher Education course choice:

- Over 180 exhibitors
- Over 200 free seminars
- Organised school parties and individual 6th Form students welcome.

July 3rd 10.00-18.00 July 4th 10.00-17.00
For further details Tel: 071-782 6872

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 The Channel 4 Daily (11/59/93)
- 9.25 Schools (84312420)
- 12.00 Right to Reply with Sheena McDonald. A viewer asks Marc Cam
and Hughie Green if they think there are too many high
entertainment talent shows on television (T). Teletext (t) (59772)
- 12.30 British Comedy Daily. Susanah Simons presents news and analysis
(41623)
- 1.00 Seamus Street. Early-learning series for the under-fives (46178)
- 2.00 Film: House of Strangers (1949, b/w). Studly drama starring
Edward G. Robinson as an aggressive, self-made banker in conflict
with his four sons whom he employs for next-to-nothing and treats
with contempt. With Richard Conte, Luther Adler, Effren Zimbalist
jr, Patricia Knight and Susan Hayward. Marked the directoral debut
of Joseph L. Mankiewicz (860352)
- 3.55 Courtmaster Magoo. Cartoon fun with the mopic hero
(4733062)
- 4.00 Garden Club from Southampton presented by Roy Lancaster as
Mandy Magoo. Includes items on colour co-ordination, controlling
pests by using ornaments and DIY bedding displays (T) (Teletext)
(t) (59772)
- 4.30 Fifteen to One. Fast-moving general knowledge quiz introduced
by William G. Stewart (s) (9)
- 5.00 Road to Avonlea. Continuing the adventures of a town girl living
in the pastoral haven of Avonlea (L2826)
- 6.00 The Comedy Show. Comedy series about American family life
(Teletext) (t) (84)
- 6.30 The Henderson Kids. Steve and Tam have to make a magic
decision (T) (4)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) Weather (855468)
- 7.50 Comment (500230)
- 8.00 Brookside. Drama set in the Merseyside suburbs (Teletext) (t)
- 8.30 Evening Shade. But Reynolds stars in this folksy comedy series
about a football club (s) (1710)



Old flames rekindled? Su Elliott and Geoff Hinsliff (7.30pm)

9.00 Female Parts: Seeking Approval — The Complicity of Women
● CHOICE: The feminist writer Rosalind Coward argues that women are being held back by an inability to break traditional patterns of behaviour imposed on them by their mothers. "The area of choice," she says, "has been used to please others." This childhood is dominated by the need to gain the approval of the mother and this is later transferred to relationships with men. To support her thesis Coward offers 12 examples of two pairs of sisters, all of whom have had difficult adult lives. In each case mother-daughter conflict is represented as crucial, although none of the four stories fits simply into Coward's scheme. The film is charming, but not held by pretentiousness shot dramatic scenes. In a postscript Coward talks about her own attempts to juggle motherhood and career. (e) (text) (s) (1807)

10.00 Northern Exposure: American comedy-drama about an east coast doctor practising in a remote Alaskan town populated by eccentric (s) (970284)

11.05 Miami — Havana Three generations of Cubans whose families have been separated by the border between Miami and Havana talk about their different lifestyles in Cuba and the United States (S89081)

11.55 Maps and Dreams: A Matter of Time. An investigation into the expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank area and the consequences for the increasingly isolated Palestinians who live there (778333)

12.45am Film: Erreur de Jeunesse (1989) Pretentious surrealist French film following the lives of three people on the same floor of a Paris apartment. Directed by Radovan Tadic (108902) Ends at 2.30.

Waterfront

[illegible]

WILSTER
 The London Express, 1.30-5.30 and Daugh-
 ton (1942) 1.02-2.52, 5.55 Farmhouse Kitchen
 (1942) 1.54-2.55, 3.25-3.55 Coming of Age
 (1935) 1.71, 5.16-5.48 Home and Away
 (1942) 1.47-1.50, 6.30-6.50 The Sunlight
 Chicks: It Out (587) 1.78, 1.55 Elm; God
 (1942) 1.01-1.04, 1.01-1.04 1.01-1.04 On The
 (1942) 1.01-1.04 1.01-1.04 1.01-1.04

RADIO 4
 Stereo on FM
 5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00
 6.00-6.15 News 6.15-6.30
 Weather & 10 Farming Today
 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30
 Today, and 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 7.55

best-sellers such as
 Animaparc. From now on, with
 titles such as *Glistening Images*, the Howard speech
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 tales about the Church of

7.25 **4.35 Business News** 7.45
7.25 **8.25 Sports News** 7.45
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0.30 Woman's Hour talks to Professor Ruth Lester about 'The 90s' - an independent enquiry into the future of Northern Ireland, examines why women wear black, and talks to the author, Julia Sma

1.00 **Money Box Live**, 071-580 4444 Lines open from 10am

2.00 **News and Yours**, with Debbie

2.25 **Spain of Britain 1992**. First Brain - Midlands and East Angles - chaired by Robert

3.00 **The World at One**

3.40 **The Archers** (1) 53 Shipping

4.00 **News: Story of a Hero**, Erik

4.30 **People's Choice** with Ian Rodska as brother, who sets out to retrace his journey,

7.50 **5.00 Spin!** (FRI only) Dylan Winter talks to the proud owner of a 1953 Triumph and a portable and mobile

7.20 **Woman's Hour (LW only)** (r)

8.00 **The Monday Play** 'Unreasonable Behaviour'. A local councilor classifies ignore the imminent collapse of his marriage in order to avert a political scandal. Russell

9.00 **News at Ten** with the Radio Drama Company in Christopher Reason's new play (s)

9.30 **The Financial World**

9.40 **The Financial World** Tonight, with Richard Kenyon

10.45 **A Book at Bedtime** Picnic at

<p>National attempt to consider the the House of Representatives. District on the Bob Graham Road of the Fells (p) 1</p> <p>3.30 CHOICE. Susan Howatch tells Rosemary Harpell that she over the light about the year ago. The years of Mercedes, Porsche and champagne ended, and with them ended the era of writing "support</p>	<p>Hanging Rock, by Joan Lyons. Read by Lisa Morrow (1 of 10)</p> <p>11.00 Talk It From Here: A 1950s comedy classic, written by Frank Muir and Dennis Norden (s) (r)</p> <p>11.30 Debate in Parliament</p> <p>12.00-12.30AM News, and 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shopping Forecast 12.43 World Service (LW only)</p>
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REQUIREMENTS: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/277m; FM 97.9-99.9 R
FM 88-90.2 R; FM 90.2-95.2 R
6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 90M/4330m (LW); 1152kHz/261m, FM 97.3

Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8 GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World
Service: MW 648kHz/463m.
